



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

One never knows when the idea will come. I was halfway through writing my October Beam article, bemoaning the fact that a brilliant idea for the fall stewardship campaign had not yet fallen into my lap, when the light of inspiration finally dawned in my brain. Now, I have to admit, I had been tossing around a handful of ideas over the past few months – perhaps using symbols of this summer's eclipse or the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation or the recent community-wide Ginseng Festival. . . . And there it was. Ginseng.

Ginseng is an amazing plant. And I say this, only knowing the bare minimum of details. The Hsu family are the experts on this botanical marvel. But I know enough about it to be captivated by its mysteries.

I first learned about ginseng while a college student in the hills of eastern Kentucky. I knew that it grew wild in the forested hills and it was sought after for its value and healing properties. I had never heard of it growing anywhere else until arriving in Wausau, and I was reintroduced to this unique plant. In conversations with Will Hsu, I learned more about why Wausau was particularly suited for not just growing ginseng, but growing the highest quality ginseng. (The soil in Marathon County is perfect for the cultivation of this plant.)

Furthermore, ginseng requires specific climate conditions and multiple years of growth before it can be harvested. It demands skill, patience, dedication, and nurture for producing optimum results. But the results are worth the time and effort invested in its growth. Ginseng is valuable and highly sought after for its unique qualities.

So how does this analogy fit with stewardship? Well, I think that when we compare the ministries of our church to ginseng, we can see many similarities. Our church is committed to living out the gospel of Jesus Christ. We don't always know how long it will take to fully realize some of our ideas, but we have the perseverance to see it through. Sometimes roadblocks get in the way, but we have talented and committed staff and volunteers who can work around those problems to continue moving forward. The harvest of our energies and efforts may not have a quick and easy payoff, but our patience often results in high quality programs and outcomes.

As we enter into our stewardship campaign season, I hope you will give generously to support our budget and the ministries that budget represents.



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

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9:00 A.M.-3:00 P.M.

WORSHIP

SUNDAY 10:00 A.M.

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The Beam

This and That...

Come and celebrate the **500th Anniversary of the Reformation** on Friday evening, October 20 at 6:30 pm at the church with the movie "Luther". This Hollywood made movie is "a stirring, sweeping epic", says the Chicago Sun Times, of how one man's faith in God, launched the greatest revolution of all. This movie is rated PG-13 but is okay for your children to watch. However, it may be difficult for smaller children to understand. Free popcorn but please bring your own beverage.

**"LUTHER"****Planning Ahead for Retirement—October 29th, 2017**

Presented by Jennifer Tryba, Financial Associate, Thrivent Financial.

This session will address six risks retirees face, including outliving your income and rising healthcare costs. The two phases of retirement, key risks and concepts to consider, and personalizing your strategy will be discussed.

If you require childcare, please let Pastor Rachel or the church office know at least one week prior to this event.

The Deacons of First Presbyterian Church will again sponsor the **Christmas Angels Ministry** that assists church members and others have a meaningful holiday by providing food, presents and financial aide. If you know of any individual or family that would benefit from this ministry, please leave/send a short note to the church office with potential recipient's, name, address, and phone number. Please place in an envelope to ensure confidentiality and address to "Angels Ministry." Please provide suggested recipients by October 22nd. Thank you.



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

News of Our Members**Congratulations Grandparents!**

~Jim and Jann Slayton have a new granddaughter, Rose Elizabeth Slayton born September 15 to Annie and Josh Slayton, Elmhurst IL. She joins Cora(4), Amelia (2) and Henry (1).

~Rick and Ann Wicklund have a new grandson; Oliver John Ghidorzzi was born on September 11, 2017 to parents Anna Wicklund and Brian Ghidorzzi.

~Grandparents Dave and Mary Aughenbaugh welcome Victoria Birch Aughenbaugh, born September 10th in St. Paul, Minnesota. Her parents are Ben and Sarah Aughenbaugh and joins sisters Charlotte and Josephine.

Jesse and Holly Bueno, Kennedy, Gage and Isley have transferred their membership to Spirit Life Presbyterian Church in Apple Valley, MN. We wish them well in their new church home.

Discipleship Team—Christian Education

Sunday, September 17th was the first day of Sunday school. We had 18 children participate! We also had 23 Bibles to hand out for our Bible presentation that same morning. I am very hopeful that this is going to be our greatest year for Sunday school and for family participation in a long time.

We have gone back to the Sparkhouse Lectionary curriculum which will allow the teachers to use the Bible much more in their teaching.

Students will have continuity in lessons week to week and families will receive handouts detailing the Bible verse covered in class.



We will continue to have FAF (Families At First) services on the first Sunday of the month. This service is family oriented and is only a half an hour long. We will not have Sunday school on those Sundays.

We are still looking for more Sunday school teachers. With the addition of a third class this year, we could use one or two more willing people to help divide up the Sundays. Please contact Andrea if you are interested in this very important role in our church. If you were to teach, you would only teach every fourth Sunday or so.

Look for mini missions and other family programming to start soon!
Andrea Ingvalson

Small Group Opportunities

Creative Sewing will begin the 2017--2018 season on Oct. 18 at 1:00 P. M. in Room B-2. If you can follow a simple pattern and sew a straight seam, we'd love to have you join us. If you have questions about it, give me a call at 715-675-3510. Thank you, Karen Martinson

Hops and the Heavens meets the first and third Mondays each month at 5:30 pm at Sconni's in Schofield.

The Men's Study Group meets every Thursday morning at 8:30 am for an hour of listening, learning and fellowship. Join us when you can.



Dear youth and families:

We're coming together for spooky fun in October! Apple bobbing,



costumes, a movie, and fun! Please join us for fellowship as we begin a new year together. An email poll for possible dates will be coming soon.

From the Worship Team

Who wrote on the door? What's that long list? These are the 95 discussion topics nailed to the door of the church in Wittenberg, Germany in 1517 when Martin Luther was dissatisfied with the theology and practices of the medieval Catholic Church. Read through some of these, and see if they pique your interest. The work of Luther, John Calvin, John Knox and others laid the groundwork for the Protestant denominations of which we are a part today. We'll celebrate the 500th anniversary of this event on Sunday, October 29.

Worship Team works hard to provide an enhanced worship experience for those who come to First Presbyterian. Be on the lookout for some special Sundays in the next few months: World Communion and Reformation Sunday in October; Remembrance Day, Harvest/Commitment Worship and our Scottish Heritage day (Kirkin' o' the Tartan) in November.

Upcoming worship in October:

- Sunday October 1: Worship at 10:00 am celebrating World Communion Day
 - 9:15 am: FAF (Families at First) Service with Communion in the Chapel
 - 10:00 am: Worship with Communion and Chancel Choir in the Sanctuary
- Sunday, October 8: Worship at 10:00 am with Children's Choirs
- Sunday, October 15: Worship at 10:00 am with Chancel Choir
- Sunday, October 22: Worship at 10:00 am beginning our Stewardship focus
- Sunday, October 29: Worship at 10:00 am celebrating the Reformation of 1517

New Sanctuary Chairs are on their way. Check out the sample in the Sanctuary. We are still accepting donations for this purchase. You may buy a chair to honor someone (with a plaque to name them) or just donate any amount to help our funds stretch further.

Our children's choirs, New Creation Singers and SonLights, are off to a good start! Any child age 4-6th grade are welcome to join us. If you missed the first rehearsals, no big deal. Come anyway!

Deacons and Elders, past and presently serving: We are in need of communion servers for communion Sundays.

Deacons**School Angel Ministry** - Thank you **Cheryl**

Davis for spearheading the Franklin School project.

Over six enormous boxes of notebooks and supplies were collected from our generous congregation.

Cheryl was unable to fit all the items in her car, so **Steve Martinson** came to the rescue with his truck! Thank you Cheryl, Steve, and the many angels in in our congregation!

Afternoon Deacon Service - October 1 at 2:00

pm. The Deacon's afternoon communion service will be held on World Communion Sunday, October 1st, at 2:00PM. Please join us for the service, fellowship and homemade goodies. If you need a ride, please call Pastor Joy at 715-573-9420 to arrange transportation.

If you are currently volunteering to **Extend the Table** on communion Sundays, or interested in becoming a volunteer in this very important ministry, stay after worship on Sunday, October 15th, to learn more. This is an opportunity for those that currently volunteer to have their questions and concerns addressed. It is also for those contemplating extending the table to shut ins. The Vikings play the Packers at noon so promise we will keep this meeting short. Please contact Ann Wicklund, anew923@gmail.com, or Pastor Joy if you have questions.

Mission

A gift to the **Peace & Global Witness Offering** enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world. **FPC** will use 25% of this Offering to assist our newest local peacemaking ministry, **Welcoming the Stranger**.



Thank you for your support of our **Food Pantry**. Your financial gifts are greatly appreciated. For those who like to donate **grocery items**, products in great demand are: tuna in water, 16 oz peanut butter, 16 oz elbow macaroni or spaghetti, Chunky vegetable and beef soup, Hamburger Helper, 16 oz spaghetti sauce, 15 oz canned vegetables and fruit. Brand name products are not necessary.



FPC will again be providing a meal at the **Wausau Warming Center** twice a month, the first and third Friday of each month from Nov. to April. Sign up at church, contact Chuck Schlitz for more information.

Warming Center Volunteer training information is available at church or contact Tracy Rieger, 608-519-8069.

Preparations for the 48th serving of **The Friends Thanksgiving Dinner** are underway. Key volunteers have already committed to helping again, but we are still looking for people willing to help. Contact Korrin Black 715-846-5612 or Kristin Janis at 715-432-0390. Thanks.



First Presbyterian Church October, 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:15 am Families at First (FAF) *Sunday Schedule	2 4:00 pm Personnel Committee meets 5:30 pm Hops and the Heavens	3 10:00 am Staff Meeting 1:00 pm Food Pantry	4 10:00 am Coffee Choir 4:30 pm Kids Choirs 6:00 pm Chancel Choir 7:30 pm Handbells Rehearsal	5 8:30 am Men's Study Group 5:00 pm Mission Team	6 All Day—Building Closed	7
8 *Sunday Schedule Communion 11:15 am Get "Organ"ized Class 11:20 am Blessing Box 4:00 pm Wausau Symphony Concert	9	10 10:00 am Staff Meeting 5:00 pm Deacons	11 10:00 am Coffee Choir 4:30 pm Kids Choirs 6:00 pm Chancel Choir 7:30 pm Handbells Rehearsal	12 8:30 am Men's Study Group 5:30 pm Discipleship Team	13 All Day—Building Closed	14
15 *Sunday Schedule 11:15 am Extending the Table Conversation	16 3:00 pm November Beam Deadline 5:30 pm Hops and the Heavens at Scanni's	17 10:00 am Staff Meeting 1:00 pm Food Pantry 4:00 pm Support Team 5:30 pm Worship Team	18 10:00 am Coffee Choir 4:30 pm Kids Choirs 6:00 pm Chancel Choir 7:30 pm Handbells	19 8:30 am Men's Study Group	20 All Day—Building Closed Martin Luther Movie Night—details coming!	21
22 *Sunday Schedule	23	24 Rev. Rachel & Jeff Todd leave for Colombia, S.A. 10:00 am Staff Meeting 6:15 pm Session 6:30 pm In-Focus	25 10:00 am Coffee Choir 10:00 am November Beam Assembly and Mailing 4:30 pm Kids Choirs 6:00 pm Chancel Choir 7:30 pm Handbells	26 8:30 am Men's Study Group	27 All Day—Building Closed	28
29 Reformation Sunday *Sunday Schedule 11:15 am Adult Ed Planning Ahead "Retirement"	30	31				

***Sunday Schedule**

- 9:45 am Nursery Open and Staffed
- 10:00 am Worship and Sunday School
- 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



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Support Team

By the time you are reading this, we should be within 7-10 days of getting our new Sanctuary chairs! We'd like to thank the families of **Betty Geurink, Art Kimbel and Glenn Dettinger**, who have requested the memorial funds for these folks be used to purchase chairs, 14 in all. Funds for an additional 28 chairs have been given in honor of or in memory of loved ones. It's not too late for you to get on board and remember and honor someone special in our life. Each chair purchased is approximately \$240 or you can donate any amount for the Sanctuary chairs with no designation. Thanks for your help!

A special thank you to Helen Brenton for the purchase of the 4th octave of bells to compliment our handbell choir, along with 2 chairs for the Sanctuary from **Les Brenton's Memorial Fund**. She has requested that the balance of the fund be used as a musical scholarship for those wishing to pursue music lessons of some kind but are unable to do so because of the cost. The details of the administration of this scholarship are currently being worked out.

It's budget time again as well as time for our annual stewardship campaign. Later this month the annual pledge card, stewardship letter and the third quarter (January through September) giving statements will be mailed out to all members. We ask that you review these documents carefully and prayerfully consider what you can give to support the work of your church in 2018. If you don't usually pledge, this is a great time to start! Every person has something they can give...big or small. When it's all added together God is the One who "makes all things work together for the good of those who love Him and are called according to His purpose". (Romans 8:28) We hope you make giving a part of your service unto the Lord.

There's a lot happening this fall! Keep your eyes and ears open for the many opportunities coming your way and be involved!

October Birthdays

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1—Karen Haines, Beverly Heinz, | 21—Avery Phelps |
| Michael Klemp—North | 22—Ginny Sauer |
| 3—Linda Metz, Amanda Vlietstra | 24—Shelly Hertz |
| 4—Catherine Evans, Sophia Maahs | 25—Jeff Schaefer, Jody Schlitz, Maren Thoreson |
| 7—Marian Seagren-Hall | 27—Cindy Abbiehl, Wendy Fox, Tony Hsu |
| 8—Marilyn Indermuehle, Andy Schell | 29—Jackie Johnson |
| 9—Shannon Livingston,
Linda Minnihan, Molly Erdman, Jenny Hsu | 31—Dennis Maxson, Glenn Peters, Lindy Phelps |
| 10—Ruth Griswold | |
| 11—Joy Patterson | |
| 12—Will Hsu | |
| 13—Katelyn Austin, Sharon Hsu | |
| 15—Dee Davis, Irma Sillars | |
| 17—Joan Schmitz | |
| 18—David Livingston | |
| 20—Henry Maahs | |



BIRTHDAY!