

First Things First

March 2020

Beloved

It seemed like such a warm day as we held our last Sunday worship in February, although I'm sure it reached a high of only 48°F, and Susan tells me that is still far from truly warm. But as Earl Davison reminded me, it does mean Spring is on the way. In March, we'll be turning our clocks ahead for Daylight Savings Time (on Sunday the 8th), and before we know it, March will be going out like a lamb.

As we look forward to the melting snow and blooming crocuses, we often have mixed feelings about the season of Lent in the Christian calendar, with its somber mood that leads to the cross for our Lord. This year is similar to most, with Lent beginning in February and running through the entirety of March, but perhaps it can be something special for us. I encourage us all to take the opportunity of our Lenten journey in March to focus our minds and hearts on considering God's plans for our Church and for the people of Waukesha.

Perhaps we at First Pres can truly take on the challenge suggested in this year's PCUSA Lenten Devotional to become a *Beloved Community*. As noted in the Devotional, the term "Beloved Community" was coined by 20th-century American philosopher Josiah Royce, but it was brought to life by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, who illustrated it, not as an impossible dream, but as a caring place of justice for all and love for one another.

First Pres Waukesha has always had a purpose, directed by the command to love God with heart, soul, strength, and mind, and to care for our neighbors. In 2020, turning that purpose into a beloved community is a charge for us to work towards dismantling racism, eradicating poverty, and revitalizing God's word in Waukesha. As we work out our new directions, we can be sure that the God who has taken us to the mountaintop will walk with us through any valleys, and that we can help God's love find a way.

The peace of the Lord Jesus be with you.

-Andrew Byshenk, Clerk of the Session

First Presbyterian Church of Waukesha

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www.firstpreswaukesha.org

March Calendar



MARCH 1

- 10:00 AM **Worship**
Communion Sunday
Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM **Preschool Sunday School**
Nursery
- 11:00 AM **Coffee Fellowship**
Oak Room
- 11:15 AM **Confirmation Class***

MARCH 2

- 6:00 PM **Session Meeting**
Office

MARCH 8

- 2:00 AM **Daylight Saving Time Begins***
- 10:00 AM **Worship**
Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM **Preschool Sunday School**
Nursery
- 11:00 AM **Coffee Fellowship**
Oak Room
- 11:15 AM **Confirmation Class***

MARCH 11

- 6:00 PM **Deacons' Meeting**
Oak Room

MARCH 15

- 10:00 AM **Worship**
Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM **Preschool Sunday School**
Nursery
- 11:00 AM **St. Patrick's Fellowship Event***
Dining Room
- 11:15 AM **Confirmation Class***

MARCH 19

- 8:00 AM **Men's Breakfast**
Dady-Oh's

MARCH 20 Spring!!!!



MARCH 22

- 10:00 AM **Worship**
Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM **Preschool Sunday School**
Nursery
- 11:00 AM **Coffee Fellowship**
Oak Room
- 11:15 AM **Confirmation Class***

MARCH 29

- 10:00 AM **Worship**
Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM **Preschool Sunday School**
Nursery
- 11:00 AM **Coffee Fellowship**
Oak Room
- 11:15 AM **Confirmation Class***

*see article

Daylight Saving Time

Begins Sunday, March 8



Turn your clock ahead before you go to sleep on Saturday, March 7, so you can make it to the church on time!

March Birthdays

- 3/4 Vicki Sulsberger
- 3/5 Joan Schmidt
- 3/6 Beverly Franzke
- 3/10 Shannon Fisher
- 3/12 Alyssa Pugh
- 3/15 Laura Ulrich
- 3/17 Patrick Price
- 3/21 Ilisia DuMez



Please note office hours are
Monday through Thursday,
8:30 AM to 1:00 PM.

Feed My Starving Children - local food packing event

Would you like to help feed starving children? **Join us on Saturday, March 14, at Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church from 9:00 AM - 11:00 PM, in Pewaukee, WI,** for a food packing event. Feed My Starving Children® is a Christian non-profit committed to feeding God's starving children hungry in body and spirit. The approach is simple: children and adults hand-pack meals specifically formulated for malnourished children, and Feed My Starving Children ships these meals to distribution partners around the world.

Please contact Erika Margis by March 11th, if you would like to volunteer or if you have questions. If you would like to donate money instead, that is also welcome. Come help make a difference!



St. Patrick's Day Fellowship

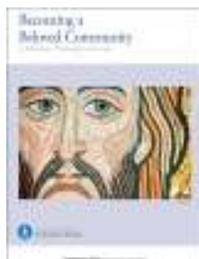
Join us after service on Sunday, March 15, for our St. Patrick's Day Fellowship; Congregation is encouraged to bring appetizers, salads, or desserts. The church will provide Potato Soup, Rubeen (& Rachel) sandwiches (with and without sauerkraut), chips, and beverages.

Pulpit Supply Schedule

March 1 - Rev. Glen Reichelderfer
March 8 - Rev. Nicole Melara
March 15 - Rev. Beth Patton
March 22 - Rev. Keith Jones
March 29 - TBA

Lenten Devotionals

2020 Lenten Devotionals, **Becoming a Beloved Community** are available by the bulletins.



March Confirmation Class

This spring, three young men of our congregation will be learning more about what it means to commit to a life of Christian Discipleship. As part of this confirmation process, we need adult volunteers to share parts of their walk with Christ and how it has made a difference.

There is a sign-up sheet in the oak room where you can choose a date and see the topics being discussed. Please consider coming to one class in order to get to know these young men, and share in their journey. **The dates will be each Sunday following service in March.**

Easter Flowers

This Easter we will have our traditional flowers available for order, as well as an option to make a gift through the Presbyterian Mission Agency's (PMA) Giving Catalog. If you're not sure what you might do with one more hyacinth, consider making a donation of a family of chickens, a farming kit, or a container garden to help those in need. You'll find more details on the **order form included with this newsletter or on the bulletin table in church.**



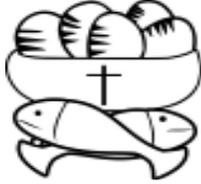
All flower and PMA contributions can be made in honor of or in memory of a loved one and all will be noted on our Easter bulletin insert. Please fill out your order and place it in the offering plate, drop off in Therese's mailbox or mail to the church office. **Orders are due in the office by Monday, March 16.**

Have something for the **April** newsletter? Please send it to

presby1@sbcglobal.net

or drop it in Therese's mailbox by **Wednesday, March 18** to have it included. Any items received after the 18th will be included in the May newsletter.

Loaves & Fishes



Save the date for **Loaves and Fishes: Sunday, March 22 and Sunday, August 2**. First Presbyterian will provide and cook the food for March 22th.

Southminster will provide and cook food for August 2. We are accepting any donations of baked goods, food and manpower! Monetary donations are greatly appreciated. More details will be provided in the March bulletins. ~Lora Collins

Hope Center Bingo and Chili Cook-off Fundraiser

Hope Center will be having a **Bingo and Chili Cook-Off Fundraiser at Wales-Genesee Lions Club on Saturday, March 28th, 2020**.

Vote on your favorite chili, and win a trophy! Prizes will be given for Bingo Winners! 3:00 – 6:00pm
Bingo starts at 4:00 pm Ticket Price: \$20

To Register go to: HopeCenterWI.org

Wales-Genesee Lions Club
S42 W31400 State Road 83
Genesee Depot, WI

One Great Hour of Sharing



Each year we participate in the One Great Hour of Sharing offering sponsored by the PC (USA). Since 1949 Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with those in need. Your generous gifts assist those affected by natural disasters, provide food to the hungry, and

assist in helping to empower the poor and oppressed. Please consider contributing when the One Great Hour of Sharing is **collected Easter, April 12**. More details about the offering will be made during worship and through bulletin inserts.

Session Recap

In February the Session continued to discuss Elder responsibilities. It was decided there should be a Personnel committee to facilitate performance reviews for all FPCW staff, which are now due. David Schultz and Sara Winkelmann were elected to this committee.

We also elected Session members for the Endowment committee. Andrew Byschenk will continue on and David Schultz was added.

We completed interviews for the three Bridge Pastor applicants have invited two of them to lead us in worship. We expect to complete this process by mid-March. As we continue to discern the future of FPCW, we have attended services at other churches. Sara Winkelmann visited the Evangelical & Reformed (E&R) Church and provided feedback.

There was some money remaining from 2019 for International Mission. We discussed giving to several local missions that were consistent with our goals.

FPCW will have a Confirmation Class starting March 1st. Susan Byschenk will lead these along with help from other church members.

The Soup Cook-Off was a resounding success with Jen Van Essen running away with 1st place for her Creamy Sausage Tortellini.

The Sweet Scrumptious Fellowship was scheduled for February 9th.

2020 Per Capita

Per Capita for 2020 in the Presbytery of Milwaukee remains at \$38.25. Please consider contributing your per capita so that First Presbyterian might use your share elsewhere in the budget. Per Capita is not taken from your regular contributions because it must designated by you for this specific use.

Please note "per capita" in the memo line. Thank you!

Presbytery Meeting Recap

I attended the February 4, 2020 business meeting of the Milwaukee Presbytery at Rock Prairie Presbyterian Church in Janesville, WI on behalf of our church. Following greetings and introductions of new Commissioned Elders the membership moved on to the Consent Agenda.

The first motion was to allow Crossroads Presbyterian Church to move a Line of Credit from one bank to another. The motion passed.

The second motion was to elect Elder Sue Frazier from Crossroads Presbyterian Church to serve on the Presbytery Nominating Committee Class of 2021. Sue was elected.

The third motion was to elect Elder Cindy Thomas from Calvary Presbyterian Church to the Commission on Transitional Ministries Class of 2020. Cindy was elected.

COMMISSION ON TRANSITIONAL MINISTRIES:

Bruce Jones, on behalf of the Commission on Transitional Ministries, made the following motion:

MOTION: To approve the policy and rules on Enrollment of Ministers of Other Christian Churches for Temporary Service and Validation of Ministry. (Found in Appendix)

Jones explained the need for this policy as small congregations have difficulty hiring part time ministers.

Freda Johnson, Christ Presbyterian Church, made a motion to amend the policy:

MOTION: In the Rules for Enrollment of Ministries of Other Christian Church for Temporary Service and Validation of Ministry, paragraph No. 3 – insert after the language “agreeing that the validation may be revoked at any time by the Presbytery” the language “on the same grounds as removal of a Presbyterian minister under a temporary relationship with a session.”

After discussion the motion to amend was approved. Freda Johnson made a second motion to amend the policy:

MOTION: In the Rules for Enrollment of Ministries of Other Christian Church for Temporary Service and Validation of Ministry, paragraph No. 2(b), strike “in accordance with the Presbytery’s guidelines for Commissioned Pastors”. After much discussion the motion to amend was defeated. The amended policy on Enrollment of Ministers of Other Christian Churches for Temporary Service and Validation of Ministry was approved.

COMMISSION ON PASTORAL MINISTRIES

Terry Hennesy, Moderator of the new Commission on Pastoral Ministries highlighted the ways that the Commission will function and how they can be helpful in supporting our ministers.

NEW BUSINESS

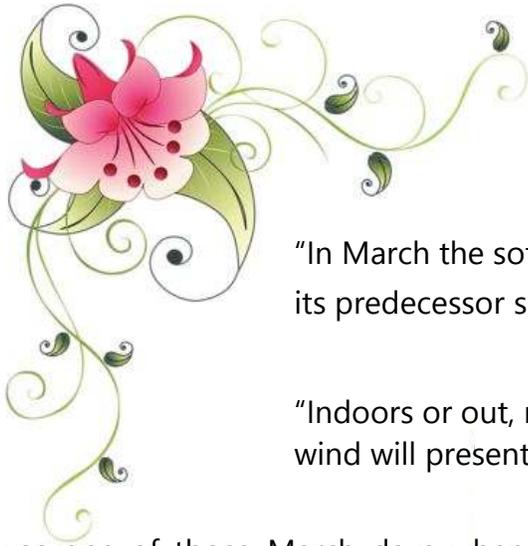
Mary Carlin, on behalf of the Commission for Transitional Ministries made the following motion:

MOTION: In accordance with the Book of Order G03.0103.b and W-3.0401, to approve the request of Ruling Elder Sara Miles to administer the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper on Sundays when she leads worship as part of pulpit supply when a Minister of Word and Sacrament is unavailable until December 31, 2020.

After Mary explained the desire to have the presbytery vote on this, since the commission inadvertently missed this action at their last meeting. The motion was approved. The meeting was closed with prayer.

~Sara Winkelmann, Elder for Finance





Spring...

"In March the soft rains continued, and each storm waited courteously until its predecessor sink beneath the ground." — *John Steinbeck*

"Indoors or out, no one relaxes in March, that month of wind and taxes, the wind will presently disappear, the taxes last us all the year." — *Ogden Nash*

"It was one of those March days when the sun shines hot and the wind blows cold: when it is summer in the light, and winter in the shade." — *Charles Dickens*

"March came in that winter like the meekest and mildest of lambs, bringing days that were crisp and golden and tingling, each followed by a frosty pink twilight which gradually lost itself in an elfland of moonshine." — *L.M. Montgomery*

"Spring makes its own statement, so loud and clear that the gardener seems to be the only one of his instruments, not the composer." — *Geoffrey Charlesworth*

"Springtime is the land awakening. The March winds are the morning yawn." — *Lewis Grizzard*

"Is the spring coming?" he said. "What is it like?"... "It is the sun shining on the rain and the rain falling on the sunshine" — *Frances Hodgson Burnett*

"The first day of spring is one thing, and the first spring day is another. The difference between them is sometimes as great as a month" — *Henry Van Dyke*

"With rushing winds and gloomy skies, the dark and stubborn Winter dies: Far-off, unseen, spring faintly cries, bidding her earliest child arise; March!" — *Bayard Taylor*

"Next time a sunrise steals your breath or a meadow of flowers leaves you speechless, remain that way. Say nothing, and listen as Heaven whispers, 'Do you like it? I did it just for you'" — *Max Lucado*

"One of God's arrangements is that after winter there should come beautiful spring days. It happens every year and it happens every life." — *Father Joseph*