

The WFPC News

The Winnebago First Presbyterian Church

November 2017

Monthly Newsletter

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Visit us at: thewfpc.org

We are located at:

208 W. Winnebago St.

The church office:

815-335-2051

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Pastor's corner

An Invitation to be Thankful, not Just Full

I hope that this newsletter finds you doing well. I offer greetings to everyone in the wonderful name of Christ our Savior. As I did in last year's November Newsletter, I begin with Psalm 100 (KJV):

"Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. ²Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing. ³Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. ⁴Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. ⁵For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations."

As we consider this psalm, please give attention to the invitation to "... Enter His gates with Thanksgiving; ..." The emphasis is easily understood; we have an invitation to be thankful and not just full as we approach Thanksgiving. Many Americans will gather in homes

and around tables with plenty of food and lots of family and friends with thankfulness in their hearts. However, some will have the blessing of family, friends, and food but will have a void in their hearts because they will only be full and will miss the joy and peace that comes from being truly thankful. As a church family, we need to show everyone an example of thankfulness during our Thanksgiving Holiday Season.

Let us remember the thoughts of others as they share their invitations to be thankful:

A. President George Washington (October 3, 1789): "It is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor."

B. Konrad von Gesner: "Best of all is it to preserve everything in a pure, still heart, and let there be for every pulse a

thanksgiving, and for every breath a song."

C. Ralph Waldo Emerson: "Cultivate the habit of being grateful for every good thing that comes to you, and to give thanks continuously. And because all things have contributed to your advancement, you should include all things in your gratitude."

D. Apostle Paul in Colossians 3:15: "... let the peace of God rule in your hearts, ... and be ye thankful."

Therefore, let us truly display our Christian witness by sharing with our community that we are a people that understand the blessings that have been granted to us and we are genuinely thankful and not just full.

Blessings to all and
Happy Thanksgiving ...

Pastor Carroll



Building



News :



Session Synopsis

Session met on October 2nd with a majority of members present. Pastor Anita opened the meeting with prayer and we read and approved the September minutes. The congregation will be served communion in their seats on November 5th and elders in attendance will assist the pastor. The Treasurer's report was also presented and approved.

Pastor Carroll was on a family vacation and was not in attendance however, he left a report of activities conducted in September. Items include attending the Presbytery meeting; member visits and phone calls, and researching Youth Director/Leader compensation and duties.

The upcoming Christmas program dates were finalized and are as follows. The Cantata will be December 10th, the Children's program December 17th and there will be two services on Christmas Eve. 10:30 a.m. and 10:30 p.m. Middle Creek will provide a family friendly service at 4:30 p.m. Once again we have asked the Confirmation class to assist in our Sunday Advent candle readings.

The fall colors are all around us and come only once a year. This is a gift from God and should be enjoyed. Take some time for a walk or drive to the park; it is good for the mind, body and soul.

Pastor Anita closed the meeting with prayer.

Rick Carr - Clerk of Session

Trustees

The Trustees are still reviewing bids for more epoxy floor surfacing.

In the mean time, we would like to thank Jim & Rita Mitchell for the new rose bush for Harriet's flower garden.

Also, a big thank you to Jason Ackerman from "Just The Stump", for removing the stump from the west side of the church.

Respectfully submitted,

Chuck Rittmeyer

Deacons

Sue Jansen opened the meeting with prayer. There were 8 members present with Pastor Carroll, and 1 member absent.

Julie Nichols read the secretary's report, shared recent correspondence, and collected monthly activity reports.

Avis Lind provided the treasurer's report with an accounting of savings, checking, and costs for fall gift bags.

Betsy Parrish shared the Sunshine report with cards being sent to celebrate birthdays and special occasions, as well as a variety of thinking of you cards for many members. Many congregational concerns were shared, with some updates provided by the members.

There was information shared on the composition of the Deacon's for the new year, with the addition of new members to replace those going off.

New business also included discussion of Christmas gifts to be delivered on December 11 at Prairie View, and December 12 pick-up for others.

Communion assignments were discussed with plans for 8:30 a.m. preparation.

	Loaf	Cubes	Juice
November 5	Avis	Karen	Lisa
December 3	Betsy	Jim	Sue
Christmas Eve services	Sue	Faye	Mary

The next meetings were set with date changes: November 14 and December 12, 6:30 p.m.

The group concluded with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Nichols, Secretary





PW Women of the church

Saturday, October 21st, was our Annual Fall Turkey Dinner. Hopefully, many of you attended the dinner or came for a carry-out meal. The Mini-Bazaar had lots of crafts and baked goodies. The raffle for the beautiful warm throw blanket was a success. The winner's name, along with the results from the dinner and bazaar will be in next months' newsletter.

Sunday, November 12th will be the Thank Offering Service. Our guest speaker will be Kathy Branning from Remedies, a Domestic Violence Shelter. Kathy will tell us about what they do to help families get out of this situation. Our mission is to support victims of domestic violence as they begin the recovery process and plan for a future free of abuse. As victims regain inner strength and rebuild self esteem, we are with them every step of their journey and provide a continuum of care, which allows them to transition from victim to survivor.

Tuesday, November 14th, will be the Presbytery meeting at Stronghold Center, in Oregon, IL. At the meeting, the rest of the Church World Service Kits from all the other churches in Blackhawk Presbytery will be collected. PW bought the needed items to finish the kits. In total, there were 70 school kits, 22 hygiene kits, and 10 clean-up buckets. Some donations have been given toward the Processing Fee for sending the kits to

where they are needed. If you would like to help with that, it would be appreciated. The fee for school and hygiene kits is \$2 per kit and clean-up buckets are \$3 per bucket. Please indicate in the note section of your check that it is for the CWS kits.

November 14th is also the PW Business meeting and Installation of Officers.

We appreciate your help with all the projects and events that we do.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Sunday, PW Moderator

Join us for our Annual Christmas Cookie / Candy Walk & Mini-Bazaar

Saturday, December 2

from 9 a.m. to Noon

Your choice of delicious
homemade Christmas cookies
and candy.

Gifts from our mini-bazaar
are also available.

Sponsored by The
Presbyterian Women



OUR GREETERS AND USHERS



Thank you notes...

Thank you to the newsletter helpers:
Betsy & Tracey Menge, Jill Sunday, and
Fritz & Gwen Vietmeier.

Contact Information

Session- Rick Carr
rscarr@comcast.net

Deacons-Sue Jansen
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or
Mary Lee
lpnhuc@yahoo.com

Trustees- Chuck Rittmeyer
charlesrittmeier@frontier.com

PW- Jill Sunday
sundayshomeoffice@gmail.com

**Deadline for the December
newsletter is November 8.**

Service Helpers

The Session has asked church members to take turns helping out at our Worship services. You will receive a letter listing your day to help. Thank you for your time and service.

Greeters:

Brett & Stepanie Freimuth
Fritz & Gwen Vietmeier
The Weavel family
The Rittmeyer family
Volunteers for the candlelight service and
New Year's eve services

Ushers:

Norm Dean, Jim Morrison, Chuck
Rittmeyer, Greg Rittmeyer, Dave Nichols,
Jim & Rita Mitchell and volunteers.

Projectionists:

Kaleigh Freimuth
Rachel Rittmeyer
Renee Rittmeyer

Acolytes:

Joe Erb
Isabelle Grey & Madyson Goike
Thea & Tianna Mitchell
Taggert Freimuth

Our Church Groups

Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle will meet on Tuesday
November 14 starting at 1:30 p.m. We
will be having the installation of officers.
Bev Samsel and Sue Jansen will be your
hostesses.

Chicks with Sticks

Chicks with Sticks meet on the second
and fourth Tuesdays at various member's
homes. If you like to knit or crochet, join
us as we work on various community
projects. For more information, please
call Ann Fuller at 815-335-7402.

Church Budget

August balances

Beginning checking	\$21468.90
YTD Revenue	\$86596.91
YTD Expenses	\$91536.39
YTD Transfers	\$ 8651.67
End checking	\$25181.09

Sincerely submitted,

Janet Erb

November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29 9 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	30	31 7p Boy Scouts #705	Nov 1 7p Choir	2	3	4
5 Daylight Saving Time ends 9 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:30 Fellowship	6 7p Session	7 7p Boy Scouts #705	8 Newsletter deadline 7p Choir	9	10 6p Rockford Rescue Mission	11 Veterans Day
12 9 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	13 6:30p Pack Committee	14 1:30p PW Installation service 6:30p Deacons 7p Chicks with Sticks 7p Boy Scouts #705	15 7p Choir	16	17	18
19 9 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	20 7p Boy Scout Committee	21 7p Boy Scouts #705	22 7p Choir	23 Thanksgiving Day	24	25
26 9 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	27 6:30p Pack #5 7p Boy Scout Patrol	28 7p Boy Scouts #705 7p Chicks with Sticks	29 7p Choir	30	Dec 1	2



First Presbyterian Church of Winnebago
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