

# Clothing Drive



The high school Sunday School class  
is hosting a winter clothing drive  
through the end of January.

As you receive new clothes during the holidays,  
please consider sharing ***clean, gently used*** items  
you no longer wear.

Donations can be brought to the church,  
and we'll deliver them to:  
The Rockford Rescue Mission.

First Presbyterian Church of Winnebago  
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Rev. Lisa Lopez-Meyer

Pastoral cell: 815-742-7503

**Welcome to Worship!**  
**First Presbyterian Church**  
**January 4, 2026 - Epiphany**  
**10:30 a.m.**

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Prelude/Welcome/Announcements

\*Call to Worship:

In this holy season of Christmas,

**Christ Comes to us again.**

In this quiet after the harried days of December,

**God invites us to pause and reflect.**

Our journey has led us here.

**The Spirit is with us now.**

Let us bow down as sages of old,

**And worship Christ our King.**

\*Hymn                    "O Lord My God" (v.1,3,4)                    #625

Opening Prayer:

Christ of power and justice, help us embrace the power that comes from love, and guide us to seek the justice that love reveals. Open our hearts and minds, that we may hear your wisdom in this time of worship. Open our lives in the year ahead to the power of your loving Spirit. In your holy name we pray, Amen.

Prayer of Confession:                    **Unison Reading**  
**Eternal God our judge and redeemer, we confess that we have done wrong. We have lived for ourselves, and apart from you. We have turned from our neighbors, and refused to bear the burdens of others. We have ignored the pain of the world, and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. In your great mercy forgive our sins and free us from selfishness, that we may choose your will and obey your commandments; through Jesus Christ our Savior.**

**Announcements**

**Today is the day!** We will be taking down Christmas decorations after the worship service. Please stay and lend a hand.

**Session** meets Monday at 6:30 pm.

**Chancel Choir** practices on Wednesday at 6:30 pm.

**Zoom Book Study** *The 8 Habits of Evangelism* focusing on the Habits of Radical Welcome, Prayer, Teaching, Fellowship and Generosity. We will meet via Zoom on Thursdays at 6:30 pm from January 8-February 5th. You can download the free PDF from 8habits.org.

**Annual Reports** are due January 7th. See Pastor Lisa for report guidelines.

**Youth Group** meets Sunday, January 11 from 6:30-8 pm in the Youth Room. Come eat, pray and play with us! We'll also be scheduling some Spring activities together.

**Officer Training** Elders and Deacons will meet on January 17 at 9 am till noon in the Fellowship Hall.

**Annual Meeting** will be January 25 after the worship service. We will have a potluck luncheon afterwards. A food sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board.

**Per Capita** for 2026 is \$45 per person.

**Sign-up sheets** for flowers and bulletins are on the bulletin board, one week's notice is needed for flower orders, see Stefanie Kluck.

**Stewardship update:** November Income-Expenses: \$9,177.24

Presentation of Gifts and Offerings

\*Doxology

#606

\*Prayer of Dedication

**Unison prayer**

**Gracious God, bless these gifts, that they may be as impactful as the gold, frankincense, and myrrh given to the Christ child by kings long ago. Amen.**

Prayers of the People

We now have a time of sharing for our joys and concerns

Prayers concluding with..... **The Lord's Prayer in unison**

\*Hymn     “Why Should I Feel Discouraged?” (v.1,2)     #661

Benediction

Postlude

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*Every member a minister...*

Accompanist/Choir Director

Sharon Smith

Liturgist

Stefanie Kluck

Projectionist

Joe Erb

Ushers

Jim Mitchell and Norm Dean

**First Presbyterian Church of Winnebago:**

**Where community, faith, family, and friends come together.**

Time of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon:

Arise! Shine!! Christ the light has come, and this light will guide us well. Friends, believe the Good News! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God!**

\*Gloria Patri

#581

Passing of the Peace

Choir Anthem:     “Without Love”

Scripture:     John 1:35-42     pg. 1080  
This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon:     “Why Are You Here?”

Frank Finch

Affirmation of Faith:

**As Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way and with the same seriousness is he also God's mighty claim upon our whole life. Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world for a free, grateful service of his creatures.**

\*Hymn     “As the Deer”

#626