

The WFPC News

The Winnebago First Presbyterian Church Newsletter for September 2026

*First Presbyterian Church of Winnebago:
Where community, faith, family, and friends come together.*



Rally Sunday is coming soon on September 13, 2026

Join us as we kick-off the Fall season!

Sunday School Classes return for Pre-K to adult, 9:15-10:15 am, prior to worship. All are welcome!

The **Children's Choir**, PreK-4th grade, will have practice as part of Sunday School, in preparation for performances in worship on the 2nd Sunday of each month, beginning in October. Let's all welcome Kasey Smith as our new Sunday School Coordinator!

We are also taking our annual **Church Picture**! We will again do it immediately after Sunday School, at **10:15 am, in the sanctuary**. Please plan to come early for the picture!

Worship Time changes back to **10:30 am!!** Join us for our first fall Sunday back as we reflect on what it means to be a healthy and accountable community of faith.

After worship, come down to the Fellowship Hall for a **Church Potluck**! Bring a dish to pass and stay to catch up with neighbors and friends. You can sign-up for the potluck on the bulletin board if not done already.

Youth Group Kick-off! All teens welcome (including new friends) in the Youth Room at 6:30 pm-8:00 pm. Light supper provided. Youth Group will generally meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month through the end of year.

Any questions? For more Sunday School information or to pre-register for Sunday School, contact Kasey Smith at kaseysmith1317@gmail.com

For more information about Youth Group contact Pastor Lisa at 815.742.7503 or thewfpcpastor@gmail.com

Session Updates

by Stefanie Kluck

The Session met on Monday, August 3, 2026. Six Session members were present and Reverend Greg Albert was our COM moderator. Ryan Bomgarden, Mathew Bomgarden, Greg Rittmeyer, and Norm Dean were all excused.

Stefanie Kluck led us through devotions by reading a devotion from Our Daily Bread, called "Safe in God's Hands". The devotion was based on scripture from Isaiah 41: 8-14, which reminds us that God is always with us and will not abandon us, even when life feels chaotic and out of our control. Pastor Greg Albert led Session in opening prayer.

Session received the clerk's and treasurer's reports.

Action items included:

- Reviewed plans for Rally Sunday.
- Approved the Baptism of Derek Miguel Meyer, son of Rev. Lisa Lopez-Meyer and Jonathan Meyer, during worship on Sunday, September 20, 2026.
- Approved voting "Yes", to the sale of Safe Storage if the sale price is greater than \$800k.

The next Session meeting is September 14 at 6:30 pm.



by Janet Klinger

The meeting was opened with the Deacons' Opening Prayer led by interim moderator Sheree Sensel. 8 members were present, 1 member was absent.

Devotional by Sharon with a reading from "Jesus is Calling". Followed with Psalm 37:7 and Psalm 23.

Reports were received.

Thank you notes received were shared.

Old business:

- Mobile Food (Pantry) Bank is scheduled for Saturday October 3rd at 10 am. This will be our Fall outreach. Volunteers must be here at 9 am to set up. More information will be shared in September via FB, WFPC website, Minutes for Mission
- Micro Pantry refrigerator is failing. Replacement options are being reviewed.

New Business:

- Congregational Concerns reviewed
- Communion schedule for care list for upcoming 2 months determined
- Upcoming Deacon of the Month includes microphone and communion prep:
 - September - Janet and Julie
 - October - Sheree and Gregg
 - November - Teresa and Marcee
 - December - Marilyn

The meeting closed with the Deacons' Prayer and adjourned at 7:54 pm.

Our next meeting is September 15, at 6:30 pm.



by Bev Williams

Many hands make the work light! I can always use extra help serving and cleaning up. If you would like to volunteer please see me.



Anyone can help with Worship!

We are looking for members who would like to serve as liturgists and Scripture readers during services. See Pastor Lisa if you are interested in liturgist or reading.

Trustees

by Gwen Vietmeier

The Trustees met at church on August 11 at 4 pm. Five members were present. We spent our time cleaning out the shed and removing unused and broken items.



Maintenance and repairs during the month:

- Adjusted the bathroom sink trap.
- Unclogged the dehumidifier drain tube.
- Replaced window trim in the preschool room.
- Adjusted the stakes on the new trees.
- Weeded flower beds.

Future Projects:

- An electrician has been contracted to repair the back stairwell light.
- Discussed kitchen countertops with PW.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, September 8 at 4:30 pm.

"Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be firm, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord."

1 Corinthians 15:58, NASB



Thank you for your support of the Micro-Pantry! The need for support continues and we attempt to provide a variety of items.

Please be sure to check expiration dates on the items. We dispose of outdated products.

We are limited to items **no taller than 12 inches**.

Items that we need:

- Shelf Stable Milk
- Cereal
- Complete Pancake Mix
- Syrup
- Granola/Energy Bars
- Canned Tuna
- Canned chicken
- Bush's baked beans (18oz)
- Velveeta cheese
- Ketchup, Mustard, and Mayonnaise
- Vegetable Oil
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Pasta
- Stove-top Stuffing
- Mac - n -cheese
- Deodorant (men's and women's)

"For I was hungry
and you gave me something to eat..."

Matthew 25:35





PW-Ruth Circle

by Sue Jansen

- The PW Coordinating Team met with the Turkey Dinner Team to make sure we are on track for the Turkey Dinner, October 17.
- Now is the time to get started on donations for the bazaar. If you are not crafty, consider making baked goods and/or candy for the bazaar. All donations are deeply appreciated.
- We are looking for volunteers to sell turkey dinner tickets. If you are interested please contact Susan Gambrel at 815-262-4626. Tickets will be available September 27.
- Help is needed from our church family to clean the church kitchen on Tuesday, September 22 (and Wednesday, September 23 if needed).
- PW/Ruth Circle meets on September 15, at 10 am.



Workcamp News

Workcamp 2026 was another amazing camp! We are currently making plans for June 2027. If you haven't been to camp but want to know more about it, we'd love to have you join us at the shareholder dinner. Workcamp is open to current 8th graders-adults. We currently have spots held for Imperial, Pennsylvania. Dates are June 21 -28 with June 20th as a travel date.

Workcamp Shareholders: the date for our shareholder dinner is Sunday, September 20 at 5 pm.

Chicks with Sticks

Chicks with Sticks knitting group will meet September 8th and 22nd from 10 am-noon. Current projects include making items for the bazaar, baby blankets and outfits for the Haven Network, and prayer shawls.



Pictured is Cheryl Juliano who has been joining us at our meetings. She is a member of Park Hills Evangelical Winnebago. She crochets mats made from plastic bags for the homeless and delivers the them to Carpenter's Place, a Christian outreach center in Rockford. Cheryl will be happy to show you how to cut up the bags for her to assist in this project.

N. IL Food Bank

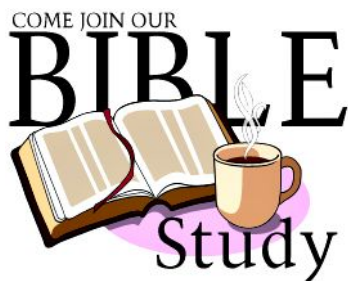
Our volunteer day for the Northern Illinois Food Bank is September 16 from 9-11 am. Join us as we stock the shelves and help them prepare for the market. It's always a good time and a great place to meet others as we serve those in need.

If you are interested in volunteering for any of these events please contact Barb Whitney at 815-289-4207.

Thank you notes...

Thank you so much to all of you who sent cards and gifts to celebrate Derek's birth! We are so grateful to have your prayers and thoughtfulness. The support of our church family is priceless. God bless you.

-Pastor Lisa and Jonathan



Fall Bible Study

What do we mean when we say we are "called" to do something? What can we learn about calling from the stories of our spiritual ancestors? **Join us on Thursday nights at 6:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall** as we explore a number of different call stories in the bible and share some of our own questions and experiences as well. Study takes 8 sessions, from Thursday, **September 10 until Thursday, October 29.**

Save these Dates!

Sunday, September 13, 2026

Youth Group Kick-off!

Come to reconnect with old friends and make new ones as we eat, play and pray together.

Youth Room, 6:30-8:00 pm.

Sunday, September 27, 2026

Jesus Trivia Game Night

Join us for yummy food and some competitive and cooperative bible knowledge games!

Youth Room, 6:30-8:00 pm.



Stewardship updates

Financial updates for the church operating fund:

July Debit: \$15,673.59

July Credit: \$10,200.17

Losses: \$5,473.42

YTD Debit: \$119,375.75

YTD Credit: \$129,753.23

Gains: \$10,377.48

Announcement Deadlines...

- Announcements for the **bulletin** by the Monday prior to the desired Sunday.
- Any content for the **newsletter** by the 2nd Wednesday of the month.
- Items to be included on the **website or facebook** at least 3 days prior to when they need to appear.

These **deadlines** help make sure we can format all documents appropriately and deal with any technical issues arising with printing and uploading.

Words of Jesus to Remember

"So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets."

Matthew 7:12, NIV

Contact Information:

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Deacons - Marilyn Larsen
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Trustees- Rick Carr
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PW-Ruth Circle - Sue Jansen
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*Newsletter items for October
are due by September 9th.*

*On the web at: thewfpc.org and Facebook: @thewfpc208
Located at: 208 W. Winnebago St. Handicap accessible*



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED