

First United Monthly Newsletter

MAY 2019

May brings us **Mother's Day** and **Memorial Day**, but did you know it's also the month for **Star Wars Day** (4 - "May the Fourth Be with You!"), **Root Canal Appreciation Day** (11), and even the famous **Do Dah Day** (18)? Here are a few more important dates to keep in mind:



Agape Dinner

Wednesday, 5/1, 5:45 pm



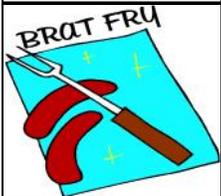
Sunday Bike Rides

*Locations rotate weekly
Begins Sunday, 5/5, 4 pm



Presby Seekers

*Special health presentation
by Becky Nyberg
Tuesday, 5/14, 10 am



Men's Club Brat Sale

Memorial Day weekend,
5/25,26,27 11 am - 1 pm



Annual Talent Show

Saturday, June 1

Remember, you can always find the most up-to-date church information in our "**Weekly Newsletter**" in your Sunday bulletin. Recent newsletters, bulletins, and other information, plus the official church calendar of events can always be found online at our website (www.firstunitedpc.org). Don't miss a thing!

► Our church was mentioned in the latest edition of **Presbyterians Today** magazine. Go to this link to read the article presbyterianmission.org/story/pt-0519-matt25/.

In April we began building on our tradition of celebrating worship through the arts by exploring Biblical themes found within popular Broadway musicals with *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *The Sound of Music*.

A Special Message
from Pastor Luke

Our next act will be about **faith** on May 5 with the heroic Don Quixote from the musical *The Man of La Mancha*. We will strive to understand and emulate how our faith compels us to be brave in a world fraught with fear and despair. We will also be reminded that faith in God is not an impossible dream but an acknowledgment of His transformative love.



Hope is a central theme found throughout the Old and New Testaments. Join us on **May 12** as we find strength for our own journey of faith looking through the lens of the musical *Les Miserables*. As people of faith, we do not lose hope because we have God's own promise that He will never forsake us. Hope gives us the strength to finish the race and the ability to trust that God will bring us home.



The final act of our "First United on Broadway" series will come your way on **May 19** with the theme of **love**. The Apostle John wrote, "God is love." As Christians, our life is a love story between God and his children. Love's power is all around us. As we visit the musical *The Phantom of the Opera*, we will find new ways of understanding the different facets of love that we experience every day of our lives.





Our next **Agape Dinner** is set for **May 1 at 5:45pm**. The menu calls for a taco bar plus those great desserts. Be sure to bring your family and invite your friends and neighbors to come enjoy our free community meal. If you'd like

to offer your financial support at any time, drop your donations into the wooden box in the Family Life Center. Come support Agape and help us share the love!

Session Report

by Dawn Picard, Clerk



In April the Session learned that the Nominating Committee has the slate of officers for the class of 2022. Candidates for Session are Tom Bayer (to fill a one year term), Anne Motquin, Loren Perretto, Kevin Speigel, and Gary Williams. Candidates for the office of Deacon are Judy England (to fill a one year term), Linda Allen, Cassie Griffin, Melissa Rusk, and Tom/Sandy Steffens. The congregational meeting to elect those officers will be held on May 19 following our worship service.

SPARK grants have been awarded and will be announced soon. Commissioners were named for the May 18 Presbytery Meeting in Green Bay. Those attending are Chris Bivins, Ken Nyberg, and Bill Picard. Jazzercise requested additional use of the building during the summer months. This request was granted, and the rental agreement will be adjusted.

Time to get out your old bicycle for the return of our weekly **Sunday Bike Rides**. You're invited to join in beginning **May 5 at 4pm** at locations that will rotate each week. They include the Fox River Trail, the East River Trail, the Baird Creek Trail, and Mountain Bay Trail. Rides last about an hour at a pace decided by the riders each week. Find the full schedule at www.firstunitedpc.org or contact Becky Nyberg at 920-606-6438 for more details.



Monthly Financial Update

(as of March 2019)

"But the seed on good soil stands for those with a noble and good heart, who hear the word, retain it, and by persevering produce a good crop."

Luke 8:15

	Year-to-Date Actual	Year-to-Date Budget
Operating Fund		
Income	\$98,600	\$112,900
Expenses	\$90,400	\$93,800

Special Upcoming Offering:
Deacons Fund Offering - May 5

Ministry Use of Funds Highlights

Highlights of Ministries' use of funds for April and May include Agape Dinners, purchase of 12 round tables for the Family Life Center, quarterly payments to Presbytery for Per Capita and the General Mission Fund, and monthly payments for building loans.



Presbyterian Women Calendar

Join us for some of our group opportunities and activities!

- 5/2 - Mission Sewing Group @ 9:30am ("K" Lounge)
- 5/9 - P.W.C.T. Mtg. @ 8:30am (Room 11)
& Talbot Circle @ noon (Koinonia Lounge)
- 5/10-11 Papercrafting Retreat @ 9am each day
- 5/15 - Esther Circle @ 9:30am (Koinonia Lounge)
- 5/18 - Presbytery P.W. Mtg. @ 1st Pres. Church G.B.
- 5/28 - 4th Tuesday Readers Group @ 1pm (Library)

Some Reminders...

* The PW **Used Book Sale** will continue through **Sunday May 19**. There's lots to enjoy.

* PW's **Christmas In July** extravaganza is set for **Saturday, July 13**. It's your chance to design and decorate a table using your own Christmas dishes or decorations. You can find the form to sign up on the PW bulletin board in the FLC. The July event will feature a program about one of PW's mission projects, music, a Christmas boutique, fellowship, and a chance to cool off from the summer heat! Tickets for the catered meal will go on sale June 2.

N.E.W. Community Shelter Update...

On **April 16** our team of volunteers served **184** meals which were prepared by Bruce Kilmer, Dennis Hibray, Lee Richardson, and Joe Williams. Cakes were provided by Diane Betz, Debby Cordova, Jane Grocholski, Lynn Huebbe, Mike Kettner, Rita Kilmer, Barb LeMense, Anne Motquin, and Sue Renier.



Dinner was served by Diane Betz, Mark DeCleene, Lynn Huebbe, Mike Kettner, Tim Toepel, and Cindi Barnett. In addition, Lois

Pelishek and Lee Richardson delivered meals to Freedom House.

Our next date at the shelter will be **Tuesday May 21** from 5 to 6:15pm. If you'd like to donate a cake, sign up in the Family Life Center or contact **Diane Betz** at mdbetz@att.net. If you would like to help prepare a meal or serve at the shelter, please contact **Cindi Barnett** at 737-5376 or at cindi.barnett@snc.edu.

JOSHUA Update...

If you're hungry for pizza or chicken on **Monday, May 13**, be sure to drop by **Pizza Ranch** at 2206 Main St., Green Bay and help JOSHUA! The organization leaders will be serving, and a percentage from all orders (plus all tips and donations) will go to support the work of the group.

JOSHUA & U.W.G.B.'s "Democracy and Justice Seniors" invite you to



Locked Out: A Conversation about Mass Incarceration on **Tuesday, May 14** from 5 to 7pm in Room 1965 in the University Union. Learn more about mass incarceration and its impact on society from a panel of speakers with personal stories. For more information about JOSHUA, visit www.joshua4justice.org.

Are you interested in becoming an official member of our church family? You're invited to our next **New Member Class** coming **May 14 at 6:30pm**.

Contact Pastor Luke Farwell or Steve Warner (warner@new.rr.com) with questions.



HuTerra Rewards
Do Good. Support Local.

You've probably heard that many participating businesses will share 2 to 5% of your purchase

amount with our church through **HuTerra**. You can download an app to participate directly, or you can just drop off your recent receipts (no more than 45 days old) in the container in our Family Life Center. **Elder Tori England** will sort through them and submit all that are from participating businesses. Thanks to everyone who has already started dropping off receipts. If you'd like more details about the program, contact Tori England or Ken Nyberg.

Our wonderful music groups will be taking a break for the summer beginning on Memorial Day weekend. That means it's your chance to share your gift of music. If you'd like to enhance our worship by providing special vocal or instrumental music one week, contact **Andy Parks** or **Julie Mackey** to reserve a date. The schedule usually fills up quickly, so don't delay. You can find the master list in our Music Room.



I ♥ Softball

Do you love softball? Our **Church Softball League** will begin playing games again on **May 19**, and we need some players to help form our church team. Games will be played on Sunday evenings (various start times) at Cornerstone Park in Ashwaubenon. Contact **Troy Gutzman** at 920-241-9722 and join the fun even if you can't be there every week. Batter up!

CHURCH NEWS

Our Session is excited to announce our new church **Vision** and **Goals** for the coming years. Find out more during a special announcement coming **Sunday, May 5!**

Vacation Bible School 2019 - ROAR! - is set for July 21 through 25, but the time to plan is now. Online registration is available on our church website at www.firstunitedpc.org. As an extra incentive, the first ten families to register will win a **FREE CD** of the music from ROAR! We're also seeking lots of adult and teen volunteers to help make the magic happen. Contact Meggan Farwell to join the team or learn more.



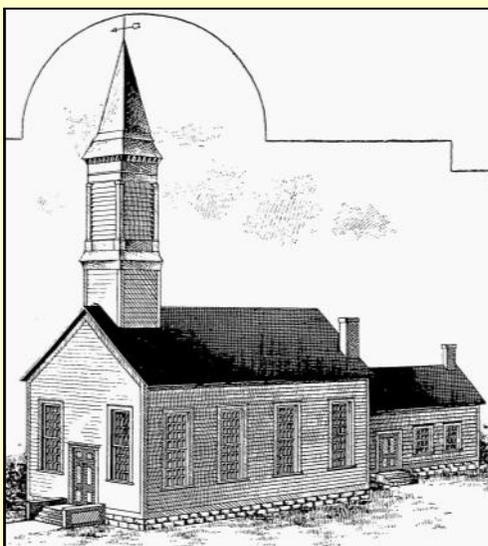
Our **Weekly Prayer Group** is preparing a unique **prayer booklet** for members and visitors. You're encouraged to contribute a favorite prayer to this special collection. Your prayers can be submitted by emailing them to the office or by dropping them off at the office or in the collection plate on Sunday. Names will not be published. The hope is that this booklet may help you begin a conversation with God when the time is right for prayer but the words may not be coming. Please submit your prayers for the booklet by **May 31**.

Our History Corner...

Our first church building was built 165 years ago this month!

Founded in 1849 as the first organized church in De Pere, our original ten members began meeting on the second floor of the Brown County Courthouse (located in De Pere at that point).

It took several years, but our early church family was finally able to build their own church building. Charter member Godfrey Miller was so interested in getting the church built that he donated lumber that was originally intended for his own home. Our early congregation dedicated the first church building near the corner of North Michigan and James Streets on **May 31, 1854**. It was our special place of worship for thirty years until a fire destroyed it and a large portion of De Pere in 1884.



If you have photos, films, or church memories to share, please contact Mark Young at mark@firstunitedpc.org or contact the church office.

First United Presbyterian Church

"Changing Lives through God's Love in Christ"

605 N Webster Ave
De Pere, WI 54115
(920) 336-1446

info@firstunitedpc.org

www.firstunitedpc.org

[facebook.com/
First.United.Pres](https://facebook.com/First.United.Pres)



Sunday School
8:30am

Worship Service
9:45am

Coffee Fellowship
10:45am



Office Hours
Monday - Thursday
9am - 1pm
Friday - closed

YOUTH GROUP

JAM & CORE UPDATES

- 5/5 - **Regular meetings - 6pm**
- 5/12 - *No meetings for Mother's Day*
- 5/19 - **End of Year Cookout - 6-8pm** (with service project baking cakes for the shelter)

Coffee Shop Update:

May 19 will be the final day until fall with a special **bake sale** from 8 to 9:30am and after church. Thanks for your support!