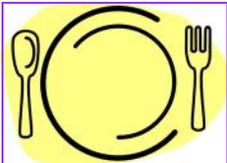


First United Monthly Newsletter

OCTOBER 2019



October is probably best known for Halloween (10/31), but we bet you didn't know it's also **Learn to Bowl Month**, **National Toilet Tank Repair Month**, and of course **Squirrel Awareness Month**. Here are a few more important events for you to keep in mind:



Agape Dinner

Wednesday, 10/3, 5:45pm



PW "Mission Explosion"

**Mission Project Stations,
Lunch, & more**

Saturday, 10/5, 9am-3pm



Men's Club 63rd Annual Fruitcake Bake Kickoff

Monday, 10/7, 5:45pm



Oktoberfest Celebration

Stewardship Lunch

Sunday, 10/13, 11am



Family Halloween Party

Wednesday, 10/23, 5:45pm

Remember, you can always find the most up-to-date church event information in our **"Weekly Newsletter"** available in your Sunday bulletin, in the **Friday Weekend Preview** emails, on our **Facebook** page, and on our website (www.firstunitedpc.org) with a calendar of events and more. Don't miss a thing!

Coming October 13!

Our church's 2020 **Stewardship Campaign Relay** gets underway on

Sunday, October 13 with a special breakfast and commissioning for those who have agreed to be Agent Coordinators or Route Agents.

During morning worship, the Stewardship Campaign Relay will be explained to everyone, demonstrating how to use the saddlebags by completing your "Estimate of Giving" card and then relaying it to the next home. Of course you'll be able to make your decision about giving to God in the privacy of your own home.

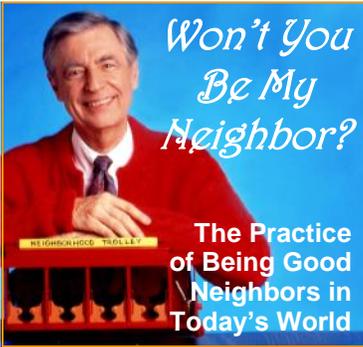
Following worship on October 13, we'll share a special **Oktoberfest Celebration Lunch** to officially kick off our church's campaign.

We're grateful to our church family members who have agreed to serve as our Route Agents and supervise the relay of the saddlebags. Please plan on attending worship on Sunday, October 13 to join the official start of the **2020 Stewardship Campaign Relay** and enjoy our **Oktoberfest Celebration Lunch!**

Your Stewardship Ministry Team



On September 28, our church family approved the Session's proposal to name **Rev. Meggan Farwell** to a new position of co-pastor. Pending Winnebago Presbytery's final approval, Meggan will begin her expanded responsibilities next year. We congratulate Meggan and share with her all our faith, trust, and hope for a vital future for our church!



Join us for a special six-week worship series beginning **October 20** and discover how a Presbyterian Minister named Fred Rogers taught a generation of children what it means to be a good

neighbor. In today's world many of us struggle finding ways to live out Jesus' command to love our neighbor as ourselves. What biblical truths can we discover from the world's most beloved neighbor, Mister Rogers? How does being a good neighbor have the power to transform society?

- 10/20 - "Won't You Be My Neighbor?"
- 10/27 - "I Like You as You Are"
- 11/3 - "Fences"
- 11/10 - "Some Things I Don't Understand"
- 11/17 - "Everything Grows Together"
- 11/24 - "The Truth Will Make Me Free"

Be part of our neighborhood as we engage in this exciting worship series, and join us on the final Sunday as we go see the new Mr. Rogers movie starring Tom Hanks at a local theater!

Presbyterian Women Calendar

Join them for some of their group opportunities and activities!



- 10/3 - **Mission Sewing @ 9:30am** (Koinonia Lounge)
- 10/5 - **PW Winnebago Presbytery "Mission Explosion" @ 9am (FLC)**
- 10/10 - **P.W. Coordinating Team Mtg. @ 8:30am (Room 11) & Talbot Circle @ 11:30am to carpool from church to Sue Rogers' home (RSVP to Michelle in Church Office)**
- 10/16 - **Esther Circle Bible Study @ 9:30am** (Koinonia Lounge)
- 10/19 - **Papercrafting @ 10am (Room 11)**
- 10/22 - **4th Tues. Readers @ 1pm (Koinonia Lounge)**
- 10/27 - **PW Used Book Sale begins!** (Donations welcome, but no text books or encyclopedias please.)

Our 6th annual **Family Halloween Party** is set for **Wednesday, October 23 at 5:45pm.** Families with kids ages pre-K through 5th grade can enjoy dinner,



games, and a devotion. Younger and older siblings are also welcome to join the fun. Costumes are optional, but encouraged (nothing gory or violent please). The cost will be \$3 per person with a maximum of \$10 per family. Please R.S.V.P. to **Rev. Meggan Farwell** at dce@firstunitedpc.org to help with planning and set-up for this fun family event!



Corday Goddard

Inquirer for Ministry Statement of Call

Being an inquirer means that I am eager to undertake a serious, rigorous examination of theology, in the interest of determining how and where I might best serve the church. I have actually wrestled with this for some time. Many years ago I was asked to serve on Session for the first time, and my response at the

time - in near total ignorance - was essentially, "What took so long?" Because of my service on Session, I was asked to consider preaching one summer, and that was very well received. So much so that I have been asked several times to lead worship. My final sermon last summer was entitled "20" in part a reflection on what was my 20th sermon. Other people suggested I should explore seminary because of those opportunities, though I was conscious of the need not to over-respond to their kind thoughts.

I have worked at my current institution for a long time now, and at various times, I entertained the possibility that continuing to serve here flew in the face of what I was perhaps being called to do instead. For most of my life I have believed in the notion of being called to serve, and thought maybe my work struggles were a sign that I was being called to the ministry. Again, I was conscious of not over-responding to the wrong things and delayed. After several conversations with my pastor, he reflected that over a period of several years, I kept coming back to this idea of ministry so often that it was beginning to appear as something I couldn't NOT do... and I think he is right. Being an inquirer will help me determine for myself if I am right.

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

On **Tuesday, September 17** our team served 176 people at the shelter. Dinner was an overwhelming success with tons of compliments! The meal was prepared by our team of Bruce Kilmer, Dennis Hibray, Joe Williams, Lois Pelishek, and Lee Richardson. Diane Betz donated bananas. Cakes were provided by Debby Cordova, Elaina and Leigh Deprez, Jane Grocholski, Mike Kettner, Rita Kilmer, Barb LeMense, Sue Renier, and Sandy Steffen.



Dinner was served by Tim Toepel, Rita and

Bruce Kilmer, Anneliese Waggoner, Sally Lindow, Diane Betz, and Mike Kettner. Lee Richardson and Lois Pelishek delivered meals to Freedom House.

Our next date at the shelter will be **October 15** from 5pm to 6:15pm. If you'd like to donate a cake, sign up in the Family Life Center or contact **Diane Betz** at 336-5054. If you would like to help at the shelter, please contact **Cindi Barnett** at 737-5376 or cindi.barnett@snc.edu.

Session Report

by Dawn Picard, Clerk



The September Session meeting was inspirational, emotional, uplifting, and fun. It was the meeting the Elders heard the faith statements of the Class of 2022 Deacons and Ruling Elders. Deacons Judy England, Sandy Steffen (read by Tom as she was unable to attend), Tom Steffen, Cassie Griffin, Linda Allen, and Melissa Rusk (read by Pastor Luke as she was unable to attend) and Ruling Elders Anne Motquin, Loren Porretto, Kevin Spiegel, Gary Williams, Tom Bayer, and Bill Picard shared their struggles, triumphs, beliefs, and aspirations. Pastor Luke attested to their participation in a nine-week leadership training program focusing on what it means to be Presbyterian and to serve in the body of Christ. All were welcomed into service with enthusiasm, appreciation, and anticipation of their contributions.

The remainder of the meeting focused on financial matters. It was reported a water leak had to be repaired sending the year-to-date expenses over the projection. Updates were given on the "Burn the Mortgage" campaign and the Stewardship Drive, and much discussion was held on promoting the Co-Pastor model for FUPC. Dawn Picard, Amy Cassidy, Chris Bivins, and Mark DeCleene will attend the Presbytery meeting in Appleton on October 12.

Monthly Financial Update

(as of August 2019)

"...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	\$244,500	\$252,850
Expenses	\$247,900	\$249,400

Upcoming Special Offerings:

Peace & Global Witness Offering - 10/6

Pledge Campaign Kickoff - 10/13

> Ministries' use of funds highlights for September and October include Christian Education Rally Day, Agape Dinner, repair of water line, third quarter payments for Per Capita and Presbytery General Mission Funds.

We're working together to "**Burn the Mortgage!**" Our campaign calls for an early payoff of the \$60,000 balance on our church's construction and improvement loans. Thanks to the efforts so far, we are already **more than half way there**, and have already **paid**



off one of the two loans! Please join those who have already given generously by placing your "**Burn the Mortgage**" **Commitment Card** in the offering plate or sending it to the office soon. Thank you!

Have you noticed a lot of creative work was done over the summer to transform and update several areas of our church? Many helped fulfill



our goal of making sure our rooms have a purpose and users feel comfortable. Downstairs, several **Sunday School rooms** were painted and decorated. The old senior high school room was transformed into the new "**Youth Lounge.**" Upstairs in the **Gathering Area** near the coffee shop, there are new bistro tables and new media equipment for meetings.

A big "thank you" goes out for financial and material support from the Deacons, Memorial Funds, Youth Coffee Shop



income, and other member donations. For their construction help, we thank Mark DeCleene, Ted Huebbe, Kevin Mackey, and Bill Picard, plus Scott and Sarah McPherson. Special thanks to Mark DeCleene for donating all of the materials for our new "Carpet Ball" game in the Youth Lounge.



There was a lot of de-cluttering and organizing some very full classrooms and closets done during our Family Campout. For that, we thank the Farwell, Huebbe, Mackey, McPherson, and Wood families, plus Mackay Campbell. A special thanks to Lynnee Schmidt and Meggan Farwell for much of the shopping and decorating and to Sunday School teachers Brenda Duncanson and Barb Williams. Many hands helped with some awesome updates!

Our **Weekly Prayer Group** is now meeting **every Tuesday at 10am** in the Prayer Room. All are invited to join as they gather to pray for the church, our church family, our nation, and the world. "Pray about everything, worry about nothing." For more information, contact Dawn Picard.



First United Presbyterian Church

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Sunday School - Sunday 8:30am
Worship Service - Sunday 9:45am
Coffee Fellowship - Sunday 10:45am



Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9am - 1pm

Friday - closed

The **63rd Annual Men's Club Fruitcake Bake** will kick off with a chili dinner on **Monday, October 7 at 5:45pm**. They'll also begin preparing all the "secret ingredients" and assign shifts for the coming weeks of baking and wrapping. All men are invited to join in this popular fund raiser!



Produce grown in and donated from our **Judy Allan Memorial Garden** is approaching **500 pounds** so far! Your help is still needed to finish the harvesting and wrap up an amazing season during October. Please sign up in the Family Life Center!

Our Deacons would like to send "care" packages to our church family's college students, but we need your help with their addresses. Please email their contact information to Becky Dzekute at becky.dzekute13@outlook.com.

