
A Fiery Discipleship

We do associate fire with a Christian celebration of Pentecost -- and we usually use the liturgical color red to signify the Holy Spirit. We use red paraments (the cloths that cover the communion table and pulpit and the cross) when we celebrate Pentecost and ordinations/installations for pastors, elders and deacons in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). We even light candles before worship whenever we are in the sanctuary to indicate the presence of the Spirit with us whenever we come together to worship.

Fire is a transformative and transformational force in the world. When used well and properly it can make the kinds of changes that we want -- it is useful to boil water, transforming wood or other fuel for light and for heat, to cook our food, to keep us safe. But it can also be dangerous. Out of control fires can destroy homes, forests, complete towns and villages. Regardless of whether it is used in control, or becomes out of control, it will change things -- for good or for ill.

Perhaps the Holy Spirit is like that as well. Perhaps, too often, we try to control the Spirit so that it doesn't get out there too far ahead of us. Perhaps, we are comfortable with the way things are right now. Perhaps, we want an in-breaking of the Spirit, but on our terms. We want our community to be led by the Spirit, but only inasmuch as we can lead the Spirit in return.

I wonder sometime if God is about to light a fire under us. Perhaps there are new things that need to be done in this part of God's realm. Perhaps there is new work for us to do, new folks for us to love, new ways to be a neighbor in Manitowish Waters and far beyond. Are there ways that we can come alongside brothers and sisters to near and far off communities in ways that will make a difference in their lives? Yes!! There are so many opportunities for us not only to support those in need in our local community, but ways that we can be a transformative force in the lives of those far beyond our community.

Are we willing to follow the Spirit into communities that need our presence and our passion? Will we allow the Spirit to fall on us, and spur us to new ways of being church? Might we come to see our church building as a mission outpost -- a place where we gather to be filled with the Spirit so that we might go out into the world to serve others, following Christ's example?

I can't wait to see what God is going to do with and through us. The Holy Spirit is alive and well and within and among us -- always. Perhaps we are being invited to explore ways to use the power of the Spirit -- the holy fire -- to transform our community and our world. For Christ's sake. Amen? Amen!

Peace,

Eric

YOUTH GROUP NEWS



MAY BIRTHDAY'S

- 19-Katelyn Patterson
- 21-Cash Jacobs
- 25-Devin Friedley

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

IT'S A 'GO'.....

Our YG students, staff, and parent(s) are going on a road trip to the Jam Pot, Jacob's Falls, Lake Superior sand dunes (and possible light house and Monastery tour) in Eagle Harbor, MI, on May 3. We will depart the church at 7:30am and return around 5pm. **ALL FORMS AND INSURANCE CARD COPIES ARE DUE before your child boards the bus,** unless the parent is traveling with us. There is no charge to the students for this excursion. It is a gift from the Joan Ouimette Memorial Fund, for which we are so grateful! Stay tuned for pictures next month!



UPCOMING DATES

MAY:

- 10 - Set up for Mother's Day Tea Party - all available parents/volunteers welcome to help, starting at 10:00am
- 12 - YG Sunday & Mother's Day Tea Party to follow
- 15 - Last day of YG & end of year party!!
- 19 - Confirmation Sunday - 9:30am worship service
- 27 - MEMORIAL DAY



JUNE:

- 16 - YG Sunday to celebrate Father's Day with Food and 'Fotos'. Watch for more info about our plans for the picnic and fun photo booth!

You are ALL invited to the Third Annual Mother's Day Tea Party on May 12, immediately following the worship service. Our dedicated YG staff, parents, students, and volunteers proudly await your arrival to take a seat in the fellowship hall with a 'spot o' tea!

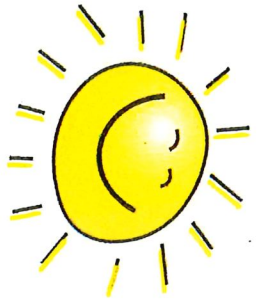


Would YOU be interested in becoming the YG Director/Coordinator for the 2024/25 school year? I am stepping down from this position and will help with your transition through the next year. See Pastor Eric for more information. It is WAY EASIER than it looks, and extremely rewarding!

"With confidence, you have won before you started." -Marcus Gray



May 2024



SUNDAY

6th Sunday of Easter

9:30am Worship Service
Holy Communion

5

National Day of Awareness & Action for Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls & Two-Spirit People

7th Sunday of Easter

9:30am Worship Service
19g Sunday
Mother's Day Tea Party!

12

Mother's Day

Day of Pentecost

9:30am Worship Service
Confirmation Sunday
Intercultural Church Sunday
Mission Worker Sunday
Presbyterian Heritage Sunday

19

Diaconal Meeting
Session Meeting

Trinity Sunday

9:30am Worship Service

26

Jewish, Islamic and Orthodox Observances

9 - Ascension
19 - Pentecost

MONDAY

6

Holocaust
Remembrance Day

TUESDAY



14

WEDNESDAY

1pm Bell Choir
3:45pm Youth
Mental Health
Month begins

Foster Care Month begins

THURSDAY

9:30am
Women's
Fellowship &
Bible Study

National Day of Prayer

FRIDAY

May Friendship Day

SATURDAY

9am-12pm
FleaZaar
Donations

8

1pm Bell Choir
3:45pm YG

9

Ascension of
the Lord
Acts 1:1-11 and
Ps. 47 or Ps. 93 or
Dan. 7:9-14 and
Ps. 113; Eph. 1:15-23;
Luke 24:44-53

10

10:00am
Setup for
Mother's Day
Tea Party

11

9am-11pm
FleaZaar
Donations
Fair Trade Day

13

1pm Bell Choir
3:45pm YG
Evelyn
of
Palestinian Nakba
Remembrance Day

16

9:30am
Women's
Fellowship

17

9am-11pm
FleaZaar
Donations
1001 New Worshiping
Communities

20



Memorial Day

21

1pm Bell Choir

23

24

9am-12pm
FleaZaar
Donations
Africa Day

28

1pm Bell Choir

30

31



MAY

Happy Birthday!

- 5th Mary Schilling, Mark Suckow
- 7th DuWayne Schumacher
- 9th Keith Kost
- 10th Mary Koster, Mike Speer
- 11th Amanda Semmerling,
Jacqueline Williams, John Williams
- 12th Tom Cervenka
- 13th Robert Bridges, Daniel Meier
- 15th George Nash
- 21st Helen Erickson, Cash Jacobs
- 22nd Steve Lee
- 28th Vivian Callender
- 31st John Ross



Happy Anniversary!!

- 2nd Ronald & Rosemary King
- 6th Mark & Marla Suckow
- 7th Harland & Shiela Klagos
- 8th Tom & Pat Ahonen
- 25th Jay & Helyn Woolf

As you'll see, the newsletter is a bit of a hybrid this month, with a few pages composed and formatted by Heather and a handful of articles submitted by others and added with the help of volunteers. Not sure how much was proof-read, and there is less clip art, but with my reduced hours, it 'takes a village,' as they say, and in order to get the newsletter out to you, we hope you'll be patient with little glitches along the way. Many thanks to Linda Billhymer, Julie Brownell, Sue DeVan, & Helyn & Jay Woolf!

Show & Tell

A huge thank you to Jim Bokern for sharing some of his knowledge about the history of Manitowish Waters on April 28! We hope you were able to join us for this special event. Please mark your calendar for our upcoming workshops and join us in the Fireside Room following the worship service:

June 30: *Tales from the Tenth* – Kath Wilson will share stories from her experiences with veterans from the 10th Mountain Division (ski troopers?) during WWII! Don't miss this fascinating presentation.

July 28: *Stretching Your Branches* – Jay Woolf will introduce us to the joys of genealogy and outline some important tools and tricks of the trade that we can use in the search for our own roots. If you're interested in learning more about your own origin story, this is a great place to start!

August 25: *The Art of the Matter* – Kay Krans will share some of her knowledge about the captivating world of art. It would be difficult to overemphasize the importance of art in our world and lives. It helps us to communicate, express, connect, and heal. We have a rare opportunity to learn from a local expert on the topic!

In the works.... Stay tuned for presentations with Rose King, Nan Bloch, Tom Henning, and another exciting one with Kay Krans on the history of MWPCPC! If you have a special skill or interest that you'd like to share, please let Sue DeVan or Heather Suffron know.

The church is switching to a Gmail account, so please update your contact info and use our new e-mail address for correspondence: mwpcchurch@gmail.com.

Camp Scholarships

Don't forget that the Presbytery has funds to help with summer camp tuition! If you know someone who is interested in attending, see Hope Dougherty, Adele Duranso, or Heather Suffron for the application form, and return the completed paperwork to Heather no later than May 22!

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES - PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN OF THE SYNOD

The Synod of Lakes and Prairies Presbyterian Women Co-ordinating Team is looking for women who support PW's purpose and want to engage as Jesus' hands and feet to the world. If you have skills of organization and technology, love reaching out through mission and enjoy the working in the company of others, there is a place for you on the Co-ordinating Team. Any woman who is active in her local congregation, whether or not there is an active PW in the church, can participate in the mission of Presbyterian Women. PW's connectional structure allows women to participate as deeply or broadly in the organization as desired.

Opportunities to serve include Synod Moderator, Synod Secretary, Synod Historian and a representative for Area One Search Committee (Northern Plains, South Dakota, Central Nebraska, Dakota and Minnesota Valley Presbyteries). All positions, except for the Search Committee, will begin in June of 2025. The Search Committee position is open immediately.

For job descriptions of each position, see the pages 14-17 of the PW Essentials Guide PWR23120-PW-Essentials.pdf

(<https://www.presbyterianwomen.org/product/pw-essentials-2023-edition/>). The slate of officers will be presented at the April 2025 board meeting. The new officers will be installed at the Synod Gathering June 12-15th 2025 in Waterdown, S.D. for a three-year term.

The Search Committee is currently comprised of Hope Dougherty, (Area Two, hdougherty2018@gmail.com) and Teresa Bartlett, (Area three, teresabartlett98@gmail.com). The Search Committee welcomes self-referrals of interested women. If you know of women in your church or Presbytery who would be a great fit for one of these positions, please share their name with the Search Committee. The Search Committee asks each woman to pray about these opportunities and consider

being a part of the Lakes and Prairies Co-ordinating Team and their work. An example is the baby layette project for Pine Ridge Reservation, which you can read about in the Sower.

Presbyterian Women are busy, working on local concerns to national engagement.

Presbyterian Women are guided by the Holy Spirit, with the purpose of strengthening the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and witnessing to the promise of God's kingdom. Please join other women from around the Synod in this work.

FOUNDATION FIGHTING BLINDNESS (FFB) - A note from Laurie Timm

It's time again for the Annual VisionWalk. Members of the congregation and the Missions Committee have supported me so much in my efforts to raise money for the Foundation, and I thank you!

The FFB is the leading non-governmental entity in the world providing funding exclusively for research to find cures and treatments for blinding degenerative retinal diseases. Many clinical trials in all stages are finding successes. Retinitis Pigmentosa (RP) is the disease my husband, kids and grandkids suffer from, which is one of the many diseases being researched.

This year's walk is being held on June 2nd. I can accept donations at any time, and can continue through the month of June. Checks made to FFB or cash may be given to me at church, or you may choose to visit my Fundraising Page for online donations at: <https://give.fightingblindness.org/singforFFB>

You may also go to fightingblindness.org to find a multitude of information about the organization as well about the different diseases their research will help.

Thank you! - Laurie



Volunteers

Announcements:

May 5 – Nan Bloch
 May 12 – Adele Duranso & YG
 May 19 – Eric Koster
 May 26 – Sharon Bridges

Liturgists:

May 5 – Bob Burton
 May 12 – Ruth Stober
 May 19 – Dave Vogt
 May 26 – Linda Billhymer

Counters:

May 5 – Julie Brownwell & Vince Hoehn
 May 12 – James Patterson & Vince Hoehn
 May 19 – Renee Whirry & Mid Sharpe
 May 26 – Kay Suffron & Vince Hoehn

Greeters/Ushers:

May 5 – Sue DeVan & Donna Stahl
 May 12 – Kay & Heather Suffron
 May 19 – Deane & Joan Galloway
 May 26 – Dan & Nan Bloch

Holy Communion

May 5: Denise Goldsworthy &
 Denny Kieper



Food Pantry Round-Up

Three different pantries serve our area, and they all benefit from our support. Please note the labeled containers in the Fellowship Hall and contribute when you can. We share the current needs of each pantry here:

Boulder: Laundry and dish detergent, and personal care items (soap, deodorant, shampoo)

Lakeland: Laundry and dish detergent, fabric softener, dishwasher detergent, and pet food

Mercer: Soup (esp. cream of chicken and cream of mushroom), diced tomatoes, canned tuna, peanut butter, and strawberry jam

THANK YOU!

Lakeland Pantry Hours

Tuesdays 8:30-11:30am
 Thursdays 3:30-6:00pm

Boulder Junction Food Pantry May Dates

2nd 10:00-11:30am
 9th 3:30-5:00pm
 16th 10:00-11:30am
 23rd 3:30-5:00pm
 30th 10:00-11:30am

Mercer Food Pantry Hours

Tuesdays & Fridays: 11:00am-1:00pm
 Wednesdays: 3:30-6:00pm

2024 Offering Envelopes are here!

Check out the glass table outside the office door. If you don't see your name, please check with Heather.

Per Capita for 2024: \$34/member

REMINDER – 3 Ways to deliver your weekly offering:

* In person on Sundays

* Snail mail:

MWPCP

PO Box 69

Manitowish Waters, WI 54545

* Online: www.mwpcp.org

THANK YOU!



LOOSE COIN OFFERING

April – June: DOVE
 Domestic Violence Escape

Fleazaar News

Well, here we are, heading into another Fleazaar season. By the time this newsletter goes out, we will have had two Saturday's sorting through the winter's donations as well as the stuff that came from the Lac du Flambeau Thrift Store. Lots of good items are in the barns already. The crew really made a lot of progress towards being ready for our official first day of taking donations, Saturday May 4th 9am till 12pm. There are big expectations for us this year. With the volunteers we have, I am sure we can deliver. One thing that was obvious of our first two Saturday's of sorting is that we need "BOXES".

The Session gave approval for additional blacktop in the area where we accept donations. I am not sure how soon this will be done but I am sure we all would rather it be sooner than later. The Session also approved a capital campaign to raise money for a 40 ft addition to the furniture barn. I will be getting some signage ordered so we have it by May 4th. I would like to establish a small committee of 5-6 people to deal with and brainstorm ideas to raise money for this expansion. I expect my phone to be ringing off the hook with volunteers. If you call with a suggestion, you become a volunteer. Don't forget; we need "BOXES".

We took in some heavy duty folding tables last year. We will pick out the ones we need for Fleazaar and mark them as Fleazaar BARN ONLY. If there are extra tables that are not needed once we are set up for Fleazaar, the rest will be sold or disposed of, depending on their condition.

We are trying to eliminate extra work wherever we can, such as moving things that we don't need anymore and moving donated furniture 2-3 times. The additional barn space should make that much easier. We would also be able to keep most donations undercover rather than piled up like junk between the barns. There would be more room to store the totes and "BOXES" we need. We need to be watching for a large long table and chairs for Session meetings.

Kathy and I are looking forward to working with all of you again this year. It is a lot of work but it is also fun. Kathy reminds you: We need "BOXES".

Denny



Coming Attractions

We have a great lineup of events planned for the next few months that will be fun for all!

May 8, 6 PM – Movie Night: enjoy The Sound of Music in the Sanctuary, with popcorn and soft drinks. FREE!

June (date & time to be determined) – Go to Snowshoe Baseball Game in Lake Tomahawk. Carpool from Church.

July – Fleazaar

September - Car Rally followed by dinner at a local restaurant & a Moonrise event (subject to change)

October - Oktoberfest