

March 2024

Join us
Sundays at 10:30 AM
for Worship Service



FPC Oconto monthly newsletter

Office hours: 8am-12 Monday-Friday
Phone: 920-835-3922
Email: office@fpcoonto.org
www.fpcoonto.org

Current Session members

Jeff Krueger

Finance

Michelle McDowell

Christian Ed

Jim McDowell

Property & Grounds

Tammie McCarthy

Elder at large

Lynn Hollander

Elder at large

Wil Andersen

Elder at large

Polly Exferd

Clerk of Session

Nikki Giese

Session Recorder



Please give securely online
at www.fpcoonto.org

Deadline for our April issue is
March 26th. Please email any
information you have to share
to the office at
office@fpcoonto.org

Highlight of the Month

Meet your Christian Education committee

Elder: Michelle McDowell

Current members: Michelle McDowell, Dawn Steele and Emilie Duffy

Duties: VBS coordination with OUMC and FALC, help organize and run Mission Possible Kids group with OUMC, community outreach, organizing and volunteering for various fundraisers (bible camp scholarships, adopt-a-family Christmas presents, youth fun events), assist with Oconto Youth Service Day events

Current needs: volunteers in ALL areas!! Please prayerfully consider what your talents and time allow to serve our family of faith and help this program grow. These children are the future leaders of the church!

Next meeting:
March 5th at 5:30 pm in
the Fireside Lounge





Lenten services available

March 24th @ 10:30 am - Palm Sunday Service at FPC
with a Palm Processional

March 28th @ 6:00 pm - Maundy Thursday Service of Tenebrae at FPC
with Holy Communion

March 29th - Good Friday Services at local churches will be
announced

March 31st @ 10:30 am - Easter Sunday Service at FPC with Holy
Communion

Service of Tenebrae

Tenebrae is a prolonged meditation on Christ's suffering. Readings trace the story of Christ's passion, music portrays his pathos, and the power of silence and darkness suggest the drama of this momentous event. As lights are extinguished, we are to ponder the depth of Christ's suffering and death; we are to remember the cataclysmic nature of his sacrifice as we hear the overwhelming sound of the "strepitus", and through the return of the small but persistent flame of the Christ candle at the conclusion of the service, we should anticipate the joy of ultimate victory.



Messages from the Communications & Hospitality Team

Office updates:

The office needs to update our files with current phone numbers, addresses, and email addresses. Please also verify the spelling of your names and date of births. There will be a printed copy in the Narthex for you to review the information we currently have. Please review and make any updates needed. You can also contact the office by phone 920-835-3922 or email at office@fpcocoonto.org.

REMINDER

Per capita is due in March. The cost is \$38 per member. If you have any questions, please call the church office. You can pay using your giving envelopes, the envelopes in the pews and mark them PER CAPITA, or using VANCO through our website and choosing the PER CAPITA box.

Property & Grounds updates:

Committee members: Jim McDowell, Jerry Giese, Jeff Mlnarik & Mike Wickman

Property & Grounds is in need of help to keep our church clean and inviting! Duties would include light cleaning, window washing, vacuuming, light mopping, bathrooms and taking out the trash. If you would be willing to give an hour or two on a rotating schedule, please contact Jim or Michelle McDowell or let Stacy know in the church office. You will also be able to sign up on SignUp Genius in the near future. Keep in mind, the more people willing or able to help, the larger the rotation. Thank you for considering!

Mission Committee updates:

Committee members: Rosemary Rice, Wil Andersen, Krista Stewart & Polly Exferd

All Mission money collected between Jan-Apr 2024 will go towards Heifer International. Money donated towards Mission must be marked on your giving envelopes or the envelopes in the church pews. If it is not marked, it will go towards general funds. You can also donate online through the VANCO link on www.fpcocoonto.org and choose General Mission. Loose coin in the collection plates will continue to go towards the youth fundraisers.

Worship Committee updates:

Committee members: Wil Andersen, Pete Gabrielson & Polly Exferd

Worship committee is looking for some volunteers that play trumpet to participate in the Easter service. If you are willing or know of someone who plays trumpet, please let Polly know as soon as possible.

This year's spring garden at the foot of the cross for Easter Sunday will have some restrictions. We cannot have any Easter lilies or hyacinths in the building due to allergies. Some recommendations for alternate options include: fresh tulips, daffodils, azaleas, carnations or a silk arrangement. There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex. Please include the type of flower you are bringing and for whom the flowers are in honor or memory of. Please have your arrangements to the church prior to 10:30 am on Saturday, March 30th.

We are very fortunate to have organist Roberta Carlsen playing for us. She will be playing on the 1st and 3rd Sundays. Donna Boehmer will be returning on Palm Sunday and be playing on the 2nd and 4th Sundays. They will rotate playing on the 5th Sundays as needed.

Upcoming Events

March 3rd @ 9:00 am Deacon's Meeting
 March 3rd @ 5:30 pm Mission Possible Youth Group at OUMC
 March 5th @ 5:30 pm Christian Education Committee meeting
 March 12th @ 1:00 pm Worship Committee meeting
 March 17th after service 100th Birthday Celebration for Pug Saucier
 March 17th @ 5:00 pm Session Meeting
 March 17th @ 5:30 pm Mission Possible Youth Group at FPC
 March 24th @ 10:30 am Palm Sunday Service
 March 28th @ 5:00 pm Potluck meal in Fellowship Hall
 March 28th @ 6:00 pm Maundy Thursday Service of Tenebrae at FPC
 March 29th - Good Friday Service at local churches to be announced
 March 31st @ 10:30 am Easter Sunday Service with communion



A calendar has been created using SignUp Genius. This calendar will include the most up to date volunteer schedules for Sunday worship and events. Please utilize the following link to access the calendar to review events and sign up for volunteer positions.

www.signupgenius.com/go/10CoB4EA4AC2BABF8Co7-48074672-please

If you are unable to access the calendar, you may still call the office and Stacy will add the information for you.

- Please join us in our Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal. Please bring a dish to share. Meal themes will be announced Sundays and will be included in the Facebook Weekly Updates.

March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 •9:00 Deacon's meeting •10:30 Worship •5:30 Mission Possible Kids @ OUMC	4	5 Bread by the Bay •5:30 Christian Ed meeting	6 •5:30 Fellowship meal •6:00 Confirmation Devotional Gathering •6:45 Cub Scouts	7 •1:00 Community Crafters	8	9
10 •10:30 Worship	11	12 •1:00 Worship committee meeting	13 •5:30 Fellowship meal •6:00 Confirmation Devotional Gathering •6:45 Cub Scouts	14 •1:00 Community Crafters	15	16
17 •10:30 Worship •Pug's 100 th birthday celebration •5:00 Session meeting •5:30 Mission Possible Kids @ FPC	18	19 Bread by the Bay	20 •5:30 Fellowship meal •6:00 Confirmation Devotional Gathering •6:45 Cub Scouts	21 •1:00 Community Crafters	22	23
24 •10:30 Palm Sunday Worship	25	26	27 •6:00 Confirmation Devotional Gathering •6:45 Cub Scouts	28 •1:00 Community Crafters •5:00 Potluck meal •6:00 Tenebrae service @ FPC w/communion	29	30
31 •10:30 Easter Sunday Worship w/communion						

Youth Updates

MISSION POSSIBLE Kids
We're on a mission!

CALLING ALL AGENTS

Join us for
Mission
Possible Youth
Group 1st
Sunday at
Oconto UMC
and 3rd Sunday
at First
Presbyterian
Church
5:30 pm to 7:00pm

- **VBS:** VBS is looking for donations for their upcoming workdays on April 14th and 28th at UMC at noon. There is a list below with the items that are needed before April 14th. There will be a bin in the Narthex to drop donated items off.
- **Mission Possible Kids:** Our youth had a wonderful day on Feb. 18th delivering all the sun catchers they made at our last gathering. The residents of The Bay were so excited to see the youth and God even gifted us with some sunshine so the residents could enjoy their new window art. We ended our afternoon with some kickball in the gym to burn off some energy. What a blessing these youth are! They meet on Sunday, March 3rd at 5:30 pm at OUMC.
- **Confirmation class:** Our confirmands are taking part in our Wed. night Lenten devotional gathering. Confirmation is scheduled for April 7th.

VBS Donations

These items are needed before April 14th

- Large cardboard boxes (appliance boxes)
- Brown paint
- Green paint
- 4 - white poster boards
- 4 - neon pink poster boards
- 4 - neon orange poster boards
- 4 - neon yellow poster boards
- 4 - neon green poster boards
- 10x10 colorful paper
- 12x12 colorful paper



Bread by the Bay

Bread by the Bay is an ongoing ministry supported by many area churches. Below is an update from them. Please continue to donate items to the shopping cart at church to help keep the patron shelves stocked.

The Pantry served the following last month:

Households: **169**

Adults: **306**

Children: **126**

Your continued support is needed and appreciated – Thank you!

Souper Bowl of Caring

On behalf of the Deacons, we would like to say thank you to all who donated food or cash donations for Souper Bowl for Caring. We were able to collect **74 food items** and **\$60 in cash**.



PRAYER list...

All Military personnel & their families including: Sterling Heyrman stationed in San Diego on the USS Montgomery. James Alwin stationed in Albuquerque, NM at Kirtland Air Force Base

Local Congregations in Pastoral transition: Presbyterian Churches in Abbotsford, Marinette, Oconto, Weyauwega, and Winneconne.

The families and friends of those who have passed away: We extend our sympathies to Carol Grose and family on the loss of her husband Dr. James Grose.

General Prayers: Bill Boesen, Margaret Dakins, Betty Geiger, Carol Grose, Myrtle Haag, Ted Haakonson, Cherylee Hamilton, Rosetta Lehman, Nick Loeffler, April Loppnow, Barb McNutt, Margie Murphy, Joan Nowak, Ron Palmer, Amanda Ruleford, Ted Ruleford, Judy Sanford, Pug Saucier, Ruth Saber, Jo Schulz, Cindy Shallow, Shirley Sikma, Mike Stache, April Steen, Gary Stout, Rob Stout, and Sue Strandt.

Need to add someone to the prayer list? Is an update needed on the prayer list? Please contact Stacy in the church office with additions or corrections.

Thank you!