

April 2025

Join us
Sundays at 10:30 AM
for Worship Service



FPC Oconto monthly newsletter

Office hours: 9am-12 Monday-Friday
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Current Session members

Tammie McCarthy

Finance Elder

Michelle McDowell

Ministry Commission

Jim McDowell

Property & Grounds

Toni Hendzel

Elder at large

Mike Duffy

Elder at large

Krista Stewart

Elder at large

Polly Exferd

Clerk of Session

Nikki Giese

Session Recorder

Highlight of the Month

On April 6th, Tenth Avenue North, a Christian Rock Band will be playing during halftime at the Green Bay Blizzard Faith & Family Event. \$5 of each ticket purchased through our church's QR code will go towards our 2025 VBS supplies. Please come and join us!

Tenth Avenue North has always been a band of deep conviction. They've never shied away from uncomfortable topics. They've never stopped asking hard questions. Yet, after two decades that saw them sell nearly 2 million albums, win multiple Dove Awards, a Platinum- and multiple Gold-certified singles and build a catalog of hit songs, they began to wonder whether God had something else in store.

And He did. But it wasn't what they expected.

What they thought was the end of Tenth Avenue North in 2020 – with a farewell tour disrupted by the global pandemic – turned into a four-year hiatus that sharpened the band's focus and cemented the convictions that made them one of the most popular bands in Christian music.

"God has a way of using what we initially perceive as endings to create room for us to experience Him in new ways," said Mike Donehey, co-founder and lead singer of Tenth Avenue North. "The last four years have been an incredible experience, and I can't wait to get back out on the road, reconnect with fans, and share more about how He's been at work."

Tenth Avenue North started in 2000 when Donehey, Jason Jamison and Bryan Homan met at Palm Beach Atlantic University in Florida. The group needed a name for their band before a local show, and figured the name of the street they lived on – 10th Ave. N. – was good enough for the first gig. The rest is history.



Please give securely online at
www.fpcoonto.org

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



Christian Education:

- **April 6th** is the Green Bay Blizzard Faith & Family Night. The Green Bay Blizzard, an indoor arena football league, are offering a Faith and Family Night complete with a halftime performance by Tenth Avenue North. Event will be on April 6th, at the Resch Center in Green Bay with a start time of 3:05 pm. In addition to the game and concert, they are also giving back in a big way! The cost per ticket is \$15 with \$5 from the sale of each ticket being donated back to our group. These funds will be given to help offset the rising costs of sponsoring Vacation Bible School for the youth in our local communities and will go a long way in helping that tradition continue.
- **April 13th** there will be a Family Bowling Event at The Good Place. All members are welcome. More information to follow. Please contact Michelle M if you are interested. There will be a sign up sheet in the Narthex. Please RSVP ASAP.
- **May 4th** will be Graduate Sunday. If there is anyone graduating from high school, college, vocational school, please let the office know.

Worship committee:

- Easter flowers - There will be a sign up sheet on the table in the narthex for flowers for Easter Sunday. Anyone wishing to provide spring flowers are welcome to do so in honor or in memory of a loved one. We request NO REAL Easter lilies or hyacinths due to allergies of the pastor and others.
- A new 9 week session of Bible study began on March 30th. They will take place on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am in the Fireside Lounge. This session follows the book "Romans" by N.T. Wright. If you would like a book, please contact Polly or the office.

Communications & Hospitality Committee:

- We will be hosting a Community Easter Breakfast prior to worship services on **April 20th at 9:00 am**. There will be more information to follow in the Weekly Updates on food/supply donations needed.
- If there is anyone needing a ride to church for services, please contact the office.

Mission Committee:

The Mission Committee has decided to extend the collection of items for Abundant Life Shelter through Palm Sunday, in order to make it our "Lenten Mission."

CURRENT NEEDS:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| • Bleach | * Wash cloths |
| • Floor cleaner (Pine Sol) | * Deodorant |
| • Disinfectant cleaning wipes | * Hand Soap |
| • Liquid laundry soap | * Body wash |
| • Windex spray bottle | * Brooms & dustpans |
| • Empty refillable spray bottles (28oz.) | * Baby shampoo/body wash |
| • Bath towels | |

It was approved that the next mission recipient will be the Marion Medical Wells. It is a very worthy cause for global mission project. This will run for the next quarter, April 1st - June 30th.

Session:

Did you know that your per capita helps pay for our session moderator, David Colby - Transitional Moderator for Winnebago Presbytery, for his travel time, time spent with us and guides us in the search for a new pastor and so much more? Our first installment of per capita was paid to the Presbytery in March. If you have not yet paid your per capita, you can do so by paying on-line thru VANCO and selecting PER CAPITA, a payment in your giving envelopes marked PER CAPITA, or in the envelopes in the pews and marked PER CAPITA. If the envelopes are not marked, the offering goes to our general funds.

Volunteer schedule:

The volunteer schedule for 2025 is now open on SignUp Genius. Stacy will begin assigning duties. Please look ahead to consider what dates you would be available to support your family of faith. You can sign up on the SignUp Genius website, the paper copy schedule in the Narthex or by calling the office. If you are unable to fulfill this duty, it is your responsibility to secure a replacement. Please notify the office with that person's name so the sign up can be updated to reflect the change.



Proverbs 12:10 says, "The righteous care for the needs of their animals." Kindness to animals is godly. In fact, caring for them is part of our purpose. Our Mission Possible Kids group was blessed to tour at the Oconto Area Humane Society today. The youth learned about all the ways that the animals are cared for there until they find their "forever" homes. Our youth were able to volunteer a little time and a lot of love today as they shared the toys and treats they made the last time we met. It takes many employees, volunteers and donations to keep these animals cared for in the manner they deserve while they are waiting to be adopted. The shelter relies on monetary donations as well as donations of food, toys, blankets, cleaning/office supplies, ect. Please consider the Oconto Area Humane Society for ways you can help support these animals or if you would like to set up an appointment to adopt. Their website has volunteer forms as well as lists of much needed items.

We learned so much today and it was such a "pawsitive" experience for our youth. We're so thankful to share a wonderful visit with our new furry friends and so appreciative to OAHS for allowing us this visit. God love all creatures big and small... our Mission Possible Kids also love them all!



- **April 20th**, the Youth and Communications/Hospitality team will be hosting a free community Easter breakfast prior to worship service at 9 am. Everyone is welcome to join us for breakfast and then join us in worship at 10:30 am. There will be free will offering. Sign up for food items and donations will be available in the Narthex.
- VBS will be held **July 27th-July 31st** this year at OUMC. The theme will be **Road Trip**. There will be work days held on:
 - April 27th @ 12:00 pm OUMC
 - May 18th @ 2:00 pm OUMC
 Decorating days will be:
 - July 20th @ 1:00 pm OUMC
 - July 22nd @ 6-8:00 pm OUMC
 - July 24th @ 6-8:00 pm OUMC
- The Green Bay Blizzard game on **April 6th** is a fundraisers for the youth to offset the cost of VBS supplies.
- 2025 Summer Camp scholarships opportunities are available. If you have a child that is interested in attending Bible Camp this summer, please reach out to Michelle McDowell or the office.

Upcoming Events

- April 6th 9:00 am Deacon's meeting
- April 6th 9:30 am Bible Study
- April 6th 3:05 pm Green Bay Blizzard Faith & Family Event
- April 9th 6:30 pm Communications & Christian Education meeting
- April 13th 12:00 pm Family Bowling Event at The Good Place
- April 17th 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Tenebrae Service w/Holy Communion
- April 20th 9:00 am Easter Breakfast
- April 20th 10:30 am Easter Service w/Holy communion
- April 27th 9:30 am Bible Study



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/10CoB4EA4AC2BABF8C07-48074672-please#

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



First Presbyterian Church
Oconto
 133 Jackson Street, Oconto WI
 April 2025



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--------|---------------------------------------|--|---|--------|----------|
| | | 1 ● 12:30-5pm Bread by the Bay | 2 | 3 ● 1 pm Yack & Yarn Club | 4 | 5 |
| 6 ● 9 am Deacon's meeting ● 9:30 am Bible study ● 10:30 am worship ● 3:05 pm GB Blizzard Faith & Family Event | 7 | 8 | 9 ● 6.30 pm Communication & CE meeting | 10 ● 1 pm Yack & Yarn Club | 11 | 12 |
| 13 ● 10:30 am Palm Sunday worship ● 12 pm Family Bowling Event at The Good Place | 14 | 15 ● 12:30-5pm Bread by the Bay | 16 | 17 ● 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday worship w/Holy Communion ● 1 pm Yack & Yarn Club | 18 | 19 |
| 20 ● 9 am Community Easter Breakfast ● 10:30 am worship w/Holy Communion | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 ● 1 pm Yack & Yarn Club | 25 | 26 |
| 27 ● 9:30 am Bible study ● 10:30 am worship | 28 | 29 | 30 | | | |

Holy Week Services

April 13th - Palm Sunday Worship Services will begin with a palm processional by members of the congregation. There will be a blessing of the Lenten Mission Project for all the items collected for the Abundant Life Mission Homeless Shelter. *"So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the king of Israel! John 12:13*



April 17th - 6:30pm Maundy Thursday Worship with Holy communion, a Tenebrae Service and stripping of the sanctuary. *"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another. John 13:34-35"*

April 18th - There will not be a Good Friday Service held at our church but we do recommend that you participate in a Good Friday service at any of our local churches. *"He himself bore our sins in his body on a tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. 1 Peter 2:24"*



April 20th - Easter Sunday Worship with Holy Communion, including Special Music with trumpets and handbells, along with a full worship service celebrating our risen Lord. *But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has risen, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay." Matthew 28:5-6*



SCHEDULE

April 6th

April 13th

| Duties | Volunteer |
|-----------------|------------|
| Opening church | Polly E |
| Greeter/usher | Krista S |
| Snack provider | Krista S |
| Hostess/closer | Lynn H |
| Weekly cleaning | Comms Team |

| Duties | Volunteer |
|-----------------|------------|
| Opening church | Polly E |
| Greeter/usher | Emilie D |
| Snack provider | Michelle M |
| Hostess/closer | Michelle M |
| Weekly cleaning | Martha K |

April 20th

April 27th

| Duties | Volunteer |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Opening church | Polly E |
| Greeter/usher | Bobbi M |
| Snack provider | Easter breakfast |
| Hostess/closer | Comms Team |
| Weekly cleaning | Wil A |

| Duties | Volunteer |
|-----------------|-----------|
| Opening church | Polly E |
| Greeter/usher | Dawn S |
| Snack provider | Toni H |
| Hostess/closer | Toni H |
| Weekly cleaning | Nikki G |



Recipe - Easter Bunny Spinach & Artichoke Dip

- 2 - 8 oz tubes refrigerated crescent rolls
- 10 oz frozen chopped spinach, thawed & squeezed dry
- 1 can chopped artichokes, drained
- 6 oz cream cheese
- 2 cloves minced garlic
- 1/2 c. mayo
- 1/2 tsp. Salt
- 1/2 tsp. Onion powder
- 1/4 tsp. Chili powder
- 1/4 tsp. Black pepper
- 1 tsp. Italian seasoning
- 1/2 c. parmesan cheese
- 1 c. shredded mozzarella

1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees
2. Place spinach, cream cheese, artichokes, and garlic in a skillet over med. heat. Heat & stir for 3-4 min until cream cheese is melted.
3. Stir in mayo and seasonings. Stir in parmesan cheese & 1/2 c. of mozzarella cheese. Cook & stir until hot & melty, then reduce heat to low.
4. Open crescent dough but do not unroll the dough. Roll & stretch dough until you have a "rope" of dough 18" long. Cut into 12 equal pieces. Repeat for 2nd tube.
5. Line a cookie sheet with parchment paper and make a bunny shape with dough pieces; 1 piece surrounded by 6 more pieces for the head; 13 pieces to create the body. Use the remaining 4 to shape ears.
6. Scoop the hot spinach dip into the center of the body, adding some to the ears. Top with remaining 1/2 c. mozzarella.
7. Bake for 18 min until crescents are golden brown.

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: **151**

Adults: **275**

Children: **125**

Your continued support is needed and appreciated – Thank you!



Prayer
Request

Knowing God to be our Great Physician we bring our requests before Him. Lord, hear our prayers for...

All Military personnel & their families including: Sterling H stationed in San Diego on the USS Montgomery. James A stationed in Columbus, Mississippi at Columbus A.F.B.

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

The families and friends of those have passed away: to the families of Pug Saucier and Jason Granius.

General Prayers: Julie, Mary A, Bill B, Clyde B, Margaret D, Brooks D, Bob D, Margaret D, Eugene D, Mary E, Carol F, Betty G, Carol G, Steve G, Ted H, Brynlee H, Rosetta L, Nick L, Barb M, Fran M, Margie M, Joan N, Ron P, Kyle P, Ted R, Judy S, Ruth S, Jo S, Cindy S, Shirley S, April S, Sue S, Ed W, Melinda W...**as we keep them faithfully in our prayers. Amen**

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.