

November 2025

**Join us
Sundays at 10:30 AM
for Worship Service
Office Hours 9 a.m.-12 p.m.
Email: office@fpcocoonto.org
(920)835-3922**



The Messenger Two

FPC Oconto

The Transition Team has been through a journey, the church has been on this journey with us through this time of transition. It has been quite the learning process since January of 2024, with struggling through the process of a pastor search and hitting roadblocks with our declining financial situation as well as decreased membership. We, along with the session, have put a lot of time and effort into this journey as well as the prayers and support you have provided for us since the beginning and as we started to gain some positive momentum with a couple of interviews.

Last September, our transition team made a report to session that we have an interested candidate for the Temporary Part Time Pastoral Position, and asked Session to help finalize what we can offer financially and we're ready to talk business. The Transition Team worked effortlessly back and forth with our candidate so we could bring our recommendation from the Transition team to the session meeting that was held last week Sunday, asking that we hire Greg Braatz as our part-time pastoral leader.

It gives us great pleasure to share with you, that the Session has approved our proposal to hire Greg Braatz, beginning on January 1, 2026, upon approval from the Committee on Ministry and Winnebago Presbytery. We will make this proposal at the November 20th Presbytery Meeting and will then be finalized at our December 7th Session meeting. This Transition Team has now officially completed our duty.

Transition Team,
Wil Anderson, Lynn Hollander, Rosemary Rice, Polly Exferd, Craig Bahrke, and Tammie McCarthy

Happy Anniversary FPC

First Presbyterian Church Oconto celebrates 167 years of the founding four churches on November 15th.



The Deacon's Giving Tree is up and waiting for your donations of hats, mittens, scarves, gloves, Kids socks and underwear. All that is received will be going to our local schools to help those in need.

Mission 4th quarter local mission giving will go to support "Adopt a Family" for Christmas. Please be generous with your mission giving to support the great need for family that has fallen on hard times.

Leviticus 19:10

"You shall not strip your vineyard bare, or gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard; you shall leave them for the poor and the alien: I am the LORD your God."



Worship Committee

Advent begins on Sunday November 30th.

Looking for readers/candle lighters for each Sunday in Advent and for Christmas eve. If interested, please let Polly or Stacy know.

Decorating for Advent/Christmas begins on Friday/Saturday after Thanksgiving. If you can help with starting the process for the first Sunday of Advent, please let Polly know you can help.

The Christmas Tree will go up anytime during the week of December 1st and be completed by Saturday December 6th along with any remaining décor that needs to be done. All help greatly appreciated. **December 24th-Christmas Eve Service** has been set for 7:00pm.

Deacons Food Drive: for the rest of this month, we will be doing a food drive to help fill the shelves in preparation for the Thanksgiving & Christmas holidays. We are also looking for names of families to bless with a Thanksgiving food basket. Thank you for any help and God Bless!

CE/Communications Team

The 2026 Sign-Up Genius is open & we would love for members of our congregation to volunteer their time and talent. Just a reminder that if you can't fulfill your duty to please find a replacement and let the office know so it can be changed. If spots need to be filled, we will update the duties by entering people in as needed. If you have any questions, please talk to Michelle McDowell.

BREAD BY THE BAY

Bread by the Bay is an on-going 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 October 7, 2025

Households: 72

Adults: 130

Children: 40

The Pantry served the following October 21, 202

Households: 86

Adults: 157

Children: 80

Your continued support is needed and appreciated – Thank you!

Psalms 95:1-3(NRSVA)

"O come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods."

Important Dates:

November 27th Thanksgiving Off closed.

November 30th First Sunday of Advent

December 7th Second Sunday of Advent

December 7th Session Meeting 4:30pm

December 14th Third Sunday of Advent

December 21st Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 24th Christmas Eve Service

Happy Thanksgiving



December 2025

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2 12:30pm Bread by the Bay	3	4 1:00pm Yak & Yarn	5	6	7 9:00am Deacons 10:30am Worship w/Holy Communion
8 Worship Committee meeting 1:00pm	9	10	11 1:00pm Yak & Yarn	12	13	14 10:30am Worship
15	16 12:30pm Bread by the Bay	17	18 1:00pm Yak & Yarn	19	20	21 10:30am Worship
22	23	24 6:30pm Christmas Eve Worship	25 Christmas Day Office will be closed	26	27	28 10:30am Worship
29	30	31 New Year's Eve				

