

The Messenger

Newsletter of Forest Park Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

The Rev. Dr. Bruce A. Jones, Interim Pastor

2300 S. Sunny Slope Road • New Berlin WI 53151

Website: www.forestparkpcusa.org Email: fppcsec@aol.com

Like us on facebook

Phone: 262-786-5850 • Fax: 262-786-5483

Church Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Monday thru Thursday



FEBRUARY CALENDAR		
Sun 2/2	9:30 am Following worship	Worship Scrip Orders Taken Annual Meeting
Mon 2/3	6:30 pm 6:30-8:30 pm	Worship & Music Troop 53
Tue 2/4	4:00 pm	Presbytery at Rock Prairie-Janesville
Wed 2/5	6:00 pm	PNC
Thu 2/6	1:30 pm 6:00 pm	Bible Study Deacons
Sun 2/9	9:30 am Following worship	Worship Choir Rehearsal
Mon 2/10	6:30 – 8:30 pm	Troop #53 Fellowship Hall
Tues 2/11	5:45 pm	Building & Grounds
Wed 2/12	6:00 pm 6:00 pm	PNC Finance
Sun 2/16	9:30 am	Worship – Messenger Deadline
Mon 2/17	6:30 – 8:30 pm	Troop #53 Fellowship Hall
Wed 2/19	6:00 pm	PNC
Thu 2/20	1:30 pm 6:00 pm	Bible Study Session
Fri 2/21	11:30 am	Daylight Drivers
Sun 2/23	9:30 am Following worship	Worship - Southminster Choir Practice
Mon 2/24	6:30-8:30 pm	Troop 53
Wed 2/26	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal Ash Wednesday Service-Communion Faith Presbyterian Church
Thu 2/27	1:30 pm	Bible Study
Sat 2/29	5:00-9:30 pm	Gathering for a Cause

February 2020 –

The Pastor Yearly Review

This is my Year in Review or the unofficial Annual Report. As I complete my second year as your Interim/Transitional Pastor, we look back at the past year. The theme a year ago was “Getting to Know You.” This year’s theme, “Working 9 to 5.” We’ve accomplished many tasks this year that will benefit the future of Forest Park Church. Some projects are easy to see, the new stairs, the security system, and constant activity (Gathering for a Cause, Wine Tasting, Hygiene Kits, Angel Tree, Larry Under the Bridge, Loaves and Fishes, and various other mission activities.)

Other tasks probably have been under the radar unless you’ve been actively involved in a committee, Deacons, or Session. These groups of leaders have been discussing how the Mission and Vision Statements impact our ministry and mission. The Vision Task Force completed their work and handed the implementation of the Mission and Vision to the lay leadership of the congregation. This work also informs the work of the PNC (Pastor Nominating Committee) in developing the MIF (Ministry Information Form) as they seek to discern God’s call for new pastoral leadership.

With 2020, I hope you will clearly see God’s guiding hand and gracious care. It will be more transition, as you will elect a new “Called and Installed Pastor.” The PNC meets regularly discerning whom the Lord is preparing to come and share in the ministry here at FPPC. I pray that the Spirit provides clarity in sense of call. I will continue to pray that you will welcome your pastor and move forward together in Christ’s name.

I will be moving on to a new ministry setting and opportunities. It truly has been a joy to serve our Lord and walk this journey together. I hope that you find joy for your journey. Like Mary who pondered the joys of Bethlehem in her heart, I cherish this

time in New Berlin. I pray that you’ve been blessed by God, too. I will continue to serve, until the Lord opens the right opportunity and provides a sense of confidence that FPPC will be ready for my departure.

The contract Session and I agreed upon provides for a 30-day termination by either party. If the PNC is ready to bring a candidate, Session can let me go. If I find my next adventure, I will negotiate my departure and may provide more than 30-day notice, so that we can have a healthy goodbye.

Until that time arrives, trust that the Lord is with us all in the transitions of life. It’s not been 40 years in the wilderness but know that God is with us always.

Joyfully,

Bruce

Rev. Dr. Bruce A. Jones
Interim Pastor

Bible Study - Continuing Luke

We continue our study of Luke’s Gospel. We currently are on Chapter 12. We will be exploring the teachings of Jesus and the parables. Many of these passages are very familiar and yet, we will uncover and discuss aspects that will be sure to amaze us. Come join us on Thursdays at 1:30 for faith formation and fellowship. **Thursday’s at 1:30pm** except on February 13.

February Worship

Over the next few weeks, we will be exploring the 7 Marks of Church Vitality. Each week, we will explore one of the core themes of vitality. We began this in January and will complete 7 Marks in March. Ecclesial Health (Church System working well), Authentic Evangelism (Sharing the Good News), Spirit Inspired Worship (Worship that connects people with God), Outward Incarnational Focus (Doing

Mission in the community), Empowered Lay Leadership (Elders, Deacons, and other leaders), Lifelong Discipleship (Nurturing our Faith), and Caring relationships (being connected to other believers).

If you'd like some Scripture to explore these Marks:

***Lifelong Discipleship**

Acts 2:42 - 47, Luke 8:11-18, Philippians 3:9b, Romans 8:1-17, Matthew 5:1-16, Deuteronomy 11:13-21

Intentional Authentic Evangelism

John 4:1-41, 2 Corinthians 4:7, Galatians 2:19b-20, Mark 4:1-20, 1 Peter 3:13-22, Matthew 4:19-20, Psalm 96, John 3:11-21

Outward Incarnational Focus

Matthew 25:31-46, Romans 12:1-21, Matthew 7:14, Luke 19:1-10, Matthew 8:18-23, Luke 6:27-36, 2 Peter 1:16-21, Luke 9:1-6, 23-27, Luke 10:1-12

Empower Servant Leadership

John 13:2-17, Ephesians 4:1-16, 1 Timothy 4:6-16, Matthew 9:37-38, 1 Samuel 3:2, 2 Timothy 2:14-26, John 13:1-20

***Spirit Inspired Worship**

Isaiah 6:1-13, 29:13, Hebrews 5:1-10, 12:28-29, Luke 24:13-35, Exodus 3:1-6, Deuteronomy 12, Philippians 2:1-11, 1 Chronicles 16:7-16, Revelation 22:1-7, Matthew 21:12-17

Caring Relationships

Acts 6:1-7, John 21:15-19, Romans 12:9-18, 15:1-6, Galatians 6:1-10, John 13:35, Hebrews 10:24-25, John 8:1-12

***Ecclesial Health**

2 Corinthians 5:11-21, Matthew 15:1-9, 1 Corinthians 12:14, 24b-25, Romans 6:1-14, Luke 24:13-35, John 2:13-25, John 17, Colossians 2:1-19, 1 Timothy 6:11-21

February 2nd - Presentation of Jesus - 4th Sunday of Epiphany

Malachi 3:1-4, Psalm 84, Psalm 24:7-10, Hebrews 2:14-18, Luke 2:22-40

Spirit Inspired Worship - "Perpetual Praise"

February 9th - 5th Sunday of Epiphany

Isaiah 58:1-9a, [9b-12], Psalm 112:1-9, [10], 1 Corinthians 2:1-12, [13-16], Matthew 5:13-20

Outward Incarnational Focus - Mission "Active Action"

February 16th - 6th Sunday of Epiphany

Deuteronomy 30:15-20, Psalm 119:1-8, 1 Corinthians 3:1-9, Matthew 5:21-37

Caring Relationships - "Christian Connections"

February 23rd - Southminster Youth - "Change the World"

This year, 20 youth from Southminster Presbyterian, Vernon Presbyterian & Christ the Servant Lutheran Churches are looking forward to joining you for worship. We will be bringing you a musical with a message to take part in your worship service coming up soon. The musical is called "Change the World" and it looks at how God impacts our lives in bringing about change. It is set from a high school student's perspective and gives us insight into the lives of young people at this stage. The purpose for the visit is to join in fellowship and worship as well as to fundraise for our upcoming youth mission trip to Red Shirt in Pine Ridge, SD in June.

Rev. Jones' Schedule

Planned Sabbath: February 7, 17, 28.
Work from Home: February 4, 14, 19, 25
Study Leave: February 11-13 (Will take extra Sunday on February 23rd)

Call the church office during the week 8am-noon on Monday - Thursday. The Deacon on Call is Mike Godsell 262-492-9858. They will contact Rev. Michelle Henrichs, who will be on call to represent Christ should the need arise in my absence.

On February 23rd, Southminister's youth will be leading our worship with their musical. They will collect a free will offering to support their summer mission trip.

Per Capita

If you haven't already done so, please remember to pay your per capita assessment, which is \$38.25 for each active member of our congregation as of December 2018. There is an envelope in your box of offering envelopes designated for this purpose. If you did not get envelopes, simply note with your contribution that the extra gift is for per Capita.

The operational expenses of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly are calculated on a per member (per capita) basis. This year the total per member assessment for Forest Park is \$ (\$38.25 x 119 confirmed active members = \$4,551.75). As you are aware, being part of the Presbyterian Church (USA) means that we need to pay our portion of the costs to run the church at its various levels. (GA \$8.95; Synod \$5.50; Presbytery \$23.80)

Our per Capita dollars support the staff and resources we receive from the PCUSA. The Church Leadership Connection will assist our Pastor Nominating Committee as we seek a new called and installed pastor. Our Synod provides coordination of mission projects in our region. All this is supported through our per capita giving of PCUSA members.

To help the church, each member is invited to pay this assessment by contributing \$38. Thank you to those who have paid their per capita for this coming year, and for those who haven't please do so at your earliest opportunity. Your contribution helps your church in a significant way. Our sincere thanks to you.

Thank You For Giving to the Lord!

John Calvin offered his heart to God, "promptly and sincerely." We offer our heart to Christ promptly and sincerely, when we serve God and neighbor. We give thanks to those church mice, who've offered their hearts in service to Christ...

- ~ Decorate and undecorate the Church for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany.
- ~ Served as liturgists and ushers.
- ~ Provided special music with bells, strings, and voice.
- ~ Hosted hospitality and provided snacks for meetings.
- ~ Lit candles for the Advent Season.
- ~ Served on Committees, Deacons, and Session.
- ~ Completed their 2019 pledges and/or made a commitment for 2020.
- ~ Shared Christ's love and grace through gifts, prayers, and acts of kindness.
- ~ Salted the sidewalks and worked with plowing service.

We give thanks for the precious gift of the Lord. We give thanks as others share their time, talent, and treasures. We give thanks for the ministry of Jesus Christ in our community.



The Deacon on call for February is Mike Godsell 262-492.9858.



If you know or hear of a prayer need and would like to have one started on the prayer chain, notify the Deacon on Call for the month to initiate your request. If you cannot reach that Deacon, call the Church Office and speak to Pam, or leave a message on the answering machine.



Keys - Do you have one?

The Session approved a Key Policy to cover the distribution of keys, fobs, and the key box code by the front door. With the new security system, we want to keep track of access and allow staff to know who is seeking access. Some people need a key to access the building in off hours. With the system, you will also need a fob. Others may need access for a limited time for a particular project or program.

If you have a key, please come in and read the full policy. Then complete a form that will be recorded and approved by Session. If you would like to talk about it, contact Rev. Jones or Art Reimer, Chair of Buildings and Grounds.



Ash Wednesday

The Fab Four will provide a time of worship on Ash Wednesday, February 26th at 7pm at Faith Presbyterian Church, 3800 W Rawson Ave, Franklin, WI 53132. A combined choir will practice at 6pm (music will be available soon.)

LÓÓK at THIS!

Historians Needed - The history of the church on the Forest Park website needs to be updated. When our new website was created (www.forestparkpcusa.org), the history from the old website was transferred over, which only goes up to the 1980's. If you are interested in writing this update of the history or have ideas on perhaps forming a small committee to do this, please contact Rhonda Griffin: 414-852-8798 or rgriffin7@wi.rr.com.



We are so happy to welcome Oline Kirkbride and Donna Kirkbride to Forest Park's church family. They joined on December 1, 2019. Here's their contact information so that you can update your directories:

Donna Kirkbride,
W249 S8500 Center Drive,
Mukwonago 53149
414-881-4300
Oline Kirkbride,
W182 S8614 Cottage Circle W,
Muskego 53149
262-971-5044

AND, longtime "Friend of Forest Park" (as listed in the directory) Jan Vonada has also become a member. She officially joined on December 1, 2019.



Forest Park had another successful year in supporting the Christmas Angel Tree program. We did have fewer participating Angel Tree families this year, so unfortunately there were a few people who were not able to get an angel tag. So sorry, but hopefully the number will increase this next season. There were 8 families, with a total of 15 children receiving gifts. Thank you for your generosity.



MAUNDY THURSDAY

The Fab Four will also host a Maundy Thursday Service on April 9th. Location TBA @ 7pm. Look for details next month.

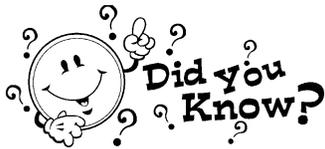


Forest Park Presbyterian Church's prayer shawl ministry is ongoing. Records indicate that many folks have been recipients of these prayerfully crafted items over the years.

What is a "prayer shawl"? It is a handmade (knitted, crocheted or quilted) wrap or lap blanket which is created very intentionally with prayer, and provided to members (and friends) of the congregation at times of illness, loss, transition, or any time a comforting touch is needed.

The Deacons oversee this ministry and find that the inventory of shawls is getting low. If you can knit or crochet, or some way create a shawl, **we need you!** Any and all contributions are happily appreciated.

Need help, or a pattern, or tools? We can help with that! Not a crafty soul? We can help with that too--yarn donations are a great way to help! For specifics on yarn needed, pattern suggestions, or just plain old encouragement, check with Sara Grant for more information.



Please Make a Note – Just a friendly reminder that our secretary Pam's email address is fppcsec@aol.com. The Gmail account (fppcusa@gmail.com) was needed when the Forest Park website was updated because the new platform would not work with an AOL email account. Any emails sent to the Gmail account are forwarded to the appropriate person(s), but it may not be on the day it was sent.



BE A HERO!!

On Wednesday, April 15, 2020, 2:30 - 7:00 pm, Forest Park Church will again sponsor a Community Blood Drive.

Please note this date on your calendar and please begin to pass the word to all possible donors. Together I know we will once again come together and save lives. More information will be in March's Messenger and Sunday bulletins for the weeks before our drive on April 15th. If you need to sign-up early you can email or text or call your requested time to me, Denine Dulde - ddulde@hotmail.com / 414-412-0149. I am happy to help get you your appointment to donate. Thank you.



SCRIP UPDATE

The totals are in and Forest Park made \$1110.65 through the Scrip program in 2019. This is an increase from 2018. Thanks to everyone who participated! This money is used by the mission committee where needed. You can find more information on the program and the list of participating retailers at shopwithscrip.com. The orders are collected the first Sunday of the month and the physical gift cards that are purchased are distributed the second Sunday of the month. The next order will be collected on February 2nd, so keep that date in mind if you are looking to donate a gift card for the annual Gathering for a Cause night which will be February 29th. Any questions or to send me an order please email me at kshuda@wi.rr.com. Thanks, Kirstin

MISSION POSSIBLE

Mission Happenings

Mark your calendars for Sat., Feb. 29 for this year's **Gathering for a Cause**. Snacks and music will start at 5:00, with a dinner buffet served at 6:00. This year's benefactor will be **Redeem and Restore**, an agency that partners with groups to reach women incarcerated for prostitution and women in strip clubs to educate, support, and restore women to health and freedom.

Tickets are \$20.00 and will be sold before the event, and at the door. Please invite friends and neighbors to this worthy cause and fun evening. There will be raffle and silent auction items, as well as wines from Old Oak Cellars and beer from Jim Gillespie.

Join in the fun...come for the food.....enjoy the music....sample the wine and beer....win a raffle basket...support a great cause.

We will be serving two dinners at **Loaves and Fishes** at the Hope Center: Apr. 19 and Aug. 23.

We will again be assembling 1200 Hygiene Kits on Sunday, Apr. 26, as part of our worship service. We need many workers: folders for towels and wash cloths, band aid counters, assemblers for the supplies, quality controllers, stockers, basket runners, counters, and boxers. After we complete the assembling task, stay for a light lunch and enjoy the fellowship.

Food and Clothing Donation Bin
Forest Park Church members are so generous, thank you to everyone who leaves food donations and sometimes clothing in the box (currently near the name tag board) in the Narthex. All food donations are delivered to the New Berlin

Food Pantry and they are very appreciative. Please remember to check expiration dates, they can't accept items that are expired (even though it may still be usable in your kitchen). Clothing donations are usually brought to the Hope Center in Waukesha, occasionally to the Food Pantry, but currently they are NOT accepting items either because of a lack of storage space, or available space is filled. At this time, please do not leave clothing in the bin.

NewsLetter DEADLINE

Feel free to mark your calendar for future Messenger deadlines.

March Messenger Deadline is 2/16/20

April Messenger Deadline is 3/15/20

May Messenger Deadline is 4/19/20

June/July Messenger Deadline is 5/17/20

August Messenger Deadline is 7/19/20

September Messenger Deadline is 8/16/20

October Messenger Deadline is 9/13/20

November Messenger Deadline is 10/18/20

December/January Messenger Deadline is 11/15/20



February 21, 2020
Pallas Restaurant
1657 S 108th Street

The Daylight Drivers will meet at Pallas Restaurant in West Allis for their February outing. The reviews say the food is good and plentiful and they have been in business since 1989 so they must be doing something right.

Please sign up in the Hospitality Room and meet at Pallas at 11:30.



Gathering for a Cause

February 29, 2020 - 5:00 to 9:30 pm

Please join us for our annual Gathering for a Cause event that will benefit Redeem & Restore. Redeem and Restore which provides awareness education, outreach services and care for victims of sex trafficking. We will have dinner, music, raffles, beer and wine tasting - along with fellowship and good times had by all. Tickets will be available starting Sunday, Feb. 2.

What can you do?

1. **Bring your friends and family** to help support the mission of FPPC
2. Donate items and/or scrip cards for the auction
3. New this year - we will also have a silent auction. If you have any unique/higher price items, please let Deana know.
4. Consider helping out before, during, or after the event. A sign up sheet will be posted on Feb. 2 on the bulletin board in the church hallway.

If you have any questions, please see Deana Gillespie or anyone else on the Mission Committee.



2/3 Bennett Critser
2/11 Zach Shuda
2/12 Jim Gillespie
2/17 Gail Daugherty
2/18 Nancy Luedcke
2/18 Rose Riedmaier
2/20 Sara Grant
2/27 Don Schwarz



A Letter From

A Grateful (Angel Tree) Parent

“Dear Angel Tree Family

I wanted to write to you and say thank you so much for the happiness and joy that you brought my family for Christmas. My son Logan was so happy with the games and sweatshirt from you. He said the football showdown game was exactly what he wanted. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. I also wanted to thank you for the gifts you gave to Logan’s grandma Joanne also. She really appreciated it too. Logan told me you gave him some Christmas cookies too. He said they were so good. I hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year also.
Sincerely, Kristina”



Gathering for a Cause



A night of fantastic food, craft wine/beer tasting, and music to give back to the community.



**Forest Park Presbyterian
Church
Saturday, February 29
5:00 pm to 9:30 pm**



Domestic Human Trafficking is documented in all 72 counties in Wisconsin! Proceeds from this event will go toward the *Redeem & Restore Center*, which provides awareness education, outreach services and care for victims of sex trafficking.

Please invite family and friends to help us make a difference. Tickets are \$20 for adults (includes one beer or wine) and \$10 for ages 4-20. Kids under 4 are free. Featuring music by Rick Pomeroy.

Your admission ticket includes:

- 5:00-6:00 appetizers
- 6:00-7:00 dinner
- 7:00-9:30 desserts, music, raffle



Forest Park Presbyterian Church

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Phone: (262) 786-5850
www.forestparkpcusa.org



ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

If you cannot serve on your assigned date, please arrange a substitute and notify the church office.

	2/2	2/9	2/16	2/23	3/1
Liturgist	Mary Ann Jurasinski	Cindy Stigler	Deann Gillespie	Garrett Pomeroy	Betty Marr
Head Usher	Gary Stigler	Ron Reuteler	Gary Stigler	Gordy Willey	Ron Reuteler
Ushers	Cindy Barbieri Joe DeGaro	Cindy Stigler Denine Dulde	Jim & Sara Grant	Art Reimer Denine Dulde	Jim & Sara Grant
Hospitality	Deacons	Reuteler	Janecek/Marr	Daylight Drivers	Simpson

Ushers	
Barbieri	262-782-6862
DeGaro	262-364-8123
Dulde	262-786-8390
Grant	262-786-5071
Hasselkus	262-786-3298
Hermann	414-744-0765
Janecek	414-241-0227
Reimer	262-679-9226
Reuteler	262-424-4378
Stigler	262-782-5153
Washic	262-789-9779
Willey	262-782-1112

Hospitality	
Janecek/Marr	
Daylight Drivers	
Deacons	
Reuteler	262-821-5046
Simpson	262-782-1937
Stigler	262-782-5153