

MARCH

2023

THE CHURCH'S LIFE
News of the First Presbyterian
Church
408 North Bergamont Boulevard
Oregon, Wisconsin 53575
Office: 608.835.3082
Email: info@fpcoregonwi.org
Website: www.fpcoregonwi.org

Mission

PPOW—Presbyterian Pantry on Wheels—February Delivery

PPOW served 12 families for the February pantry. Each family received: Ground Beef, Chicken, Cheese, Canned Vegetables, Beans, Rice, Oranges, Bananas, Carrots, Mac & Cheese, Tortillas, Bread, Cereal, Eggs, Butter, Potatoes, Onions, Vegetable Oil, Ranch Dressing, Ketchup, Jalapeno Peppers, Peanut Butter, Jelly, Canned Chicken, Cookies and Toilet Paper. It is due to the generosity of our congregation that PPOW can provide this quantity of food. The PPOW families want the congregation to know how much they appreciate being able to provide their children with healthy meals. THANK YOU!!!



PPOW Collections

Can you believe that all the items collected for PPOW in 2022 added up to just over \$1000 in value? From sugar to shampoo, toothbrushes to toilet paper and a whole lot more, every item donated helps the PPOW budget and supplies our families with needed groceries. The Mission committee has honed our purchasing and donation requests to what our families

PPOW Collections (cont'd.)

use and need. Some of the things we give every month are rice, beans, canned corn and tomatoes as well as cold items such as eggs, hamburger and frozen chicken. Other items are given every other month like peanut butter and sugar. Shampoo and other personal care items are delivered once or twice a year. When you donate to PPOW we hope you feel you are a part of that program - because you are! Thank you!

And...more paper grocery bags are needed. They can be left in the kitchen.

Thank You Notes

In December of each year, our congregation provides monetary donations to our Mission Partners. Here are some excerpts from the thank you letters. If you want to read the entire thank you notes, they are posted on the Mission Bulletin Board in the Narthex. Our congregation also donated \$500 to Helping Hands, a program run through the churches in Oregon that assists families without children who need assistance with food, housing and other needs.



Oregon Area Food Pantry (OAFP)

Thank you for your churches' contribution to the Oregon Area Food Pantry. With your support, the OAFP is addressing the hunger crisis in our communities. So many of our neighbors are struggling to meet basic needs and facing hunger daily. Children and the elderly are especially vulnerable. Your donation helps provide our community with hope and nourishment. We are so grateful for your partnership in helping neighbors in need access food in an atmosphere of dignity and respect. Your incredibly generous gift of \$750 makes a difference in the lives of hungry families and helps them gather around their tables for a wholesome meal.

Salvation Army

Your generous donation of \$1,000, during our 2022 Winter Red Kettle Match Days Campaign, helps us to continue to provide the critical programs offered by the Salvation Army. Without your support, we would not be able to help those who need us the most. Our current services include an emergency shelter for women and families, programs to help them achieve permanent housing, emergency disaster service, low-cost children's programming, support with food and clothes and more. We can assist people in Dane County because of your continued support.



Thank You Notes (cont'd.)

NINA Fund (Neighbors in Need of Assistance)

We would like to express our sincere gratitude for your donation of \$500 to the NINA Fund. Donations are used to help stabilize vulnerable families living in the Oregon, WI area. Donations are generally used to help financially struggling families stay in their housing, keep their utilities connected or pay other important bills. Our effectiveness in what we do would be severely limited without the support of generous people like your church.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA)

Looking at the past year, the increase in wildfires, floods, hurricanes, storms, armed conflicts, famine as well as the staggering increase in shootings are moments in which affected communities in the United States and around the world need assistance. Despite these threats, time and time again this affirmation continues to hold truth: "Out of Chaos, Hope". Thanks for your gift of \$1,000 to help us carry an embrace of hope through immediate and long-term assistance projects in multiple places. We are grateful to be able to be ambassadors of hope and care thanks to you and your donation.



Pi (Pie) Day Sunday, March 12

Mission Committee is looking for ways to raise funds for PPOW now that the Bill's receipt revenue is no longer an option. We are going to have a PI Day sale after church on March 12th. We are looking for volunteers to bake pies or provide bakery pies!

Regular Pies will sell for \$10.00 and there will be smaller bakery options for less. Pies will be the PPOW requested item for collection in March. More details to follow as we get closer to the date. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact Cindy Mehl, Sue McGuigan or Wendy Goist Jones





One Great Hour of Sharing Palm Sunday, April 2nd

One Great Hour of Sharing special offering will be collected on **April 2nd, Palm Sunday**. This offering provides Presbyterians a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need around the world.

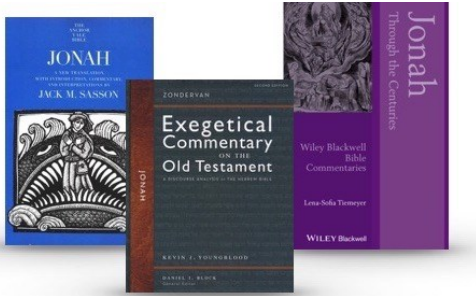
The One Great Hour of Sharing Offering supports the work of...

- **The Presbyterian Hunger Program** as they seek to to alleviate hunger, care for creation, and short circuit the systemic causes of poverty so all may be fed.
- **The Self-Development of People** who invest in communities and
- respond to their experiences of oppression, poverty and injustice.
- **Presbyterian Disaster Assistance** while they work alongside communities to recover and find hope following the devastation of both natural or human-caused disasters.

These programs all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.



Christian Ed



Adult Bible Study - 1st and 3rd Tuesdays Studying Jonah

George continues to captain our deep dive into the book of Jonah. We will meet March 7 and March 21 via zoom beginning at 7:00pm. In addition to the Bible, we are reading ***Jonah for Normal People*** by Jared Byas. Get onboard - you will soon be hooked!! For more information or receive the zoom link, contact Judy Belanus. (jbelanus@gmail.com).

Youth Christian Education

Look for something new in March. We are beginning a monthly "Sunday School" for any youth interested. After the anthem, youth will be invited to leave worship for a Bible lesson, crafts, songs and fun time together. The schedule:

March 19 - Jesus Welcomes the Children
April 2 - Palm Sunday
May 7 - God's House

If you have questions or suggestions, please contact Judy Belanus (jbelanus@gmail.com).



Emergency Pastoral Care Needs

If you or a family member are in need of emergency pastoral care while we are without a new pastor, please contact the church office (608-835-3082), Dave Hanson (608-469-8213), Tom Niebauer (608-513-3726), or Rev. Scott Anderson (608-358-6153).



Session Action Items from February

- Voted to remove Kate Brethauer and Doug Brethauer from the Active Membership roles per their request.
- Approved offering a Sunday School program once a month in March, April, May
- Approved having Vacation Bible School during the 2023 summer.
- Approved a revised funeral policy
- Approved the financial audit for July-December 2022
- Voted to make Abi Brito (daughter of PPOW contact family and long-time PPOW helper) eligible for a secondary education scholarship.
- Voted to purchase a new Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) at a cost of approximately \$1900
- Nancy Cox volunteered to serve as liaison between the deacons and session

Respectfully submitted, Tom Niebauer, Clerk of Session

LET'S TALK ABOUT BRAINS! HEALTH, DEVELOPMENT AND VULNERABILITY OF TEEN BRAINS

AN INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION WITH
DR ANDREW LOKUTA, PH.D.

MONDAY, MARCH 13
5:30-6:30PM
OHS INNOVATION CENTER
LIGHT SNACKS PROVIDED

PRESENTED BY
OREGON AREA CARES COMMUNITY COALITION
OREGON COMMUNITY EDUCATION



Choir Sings at Beehive



On February 26, the choir sang for the residents of Beehive, especially for our own Connie Mitchell.



Agrace Seeks Volunteers in Dane County

Volunteers are needed to assist customers, operate the cash register and sort donations at the Agrace Thrift Store; pack donated items in donors' homes for the thrift stores' Donation Transportation Service; or provide companionship to clients at the Agrace Adult Day Center.

Agrace will host orientation for new volunteers Tuesday, March 28, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at its Madison campus. Pre-registration is required. To register, call (608) 327-7163 or visit [Agrace.org/Volunteer](https://www.agrace.org/Volunteer) and fill out an application.

Agrace Offers Grief Support Group Options in March

In March, Agrace is offering one-on-one grief support, and professionally led grief support groups to anyone, even if the person who died did not have hospice care.

- **Journey Through Grief** is a six-week grief support group series for adults. It meets Wednesdays, March 1 to April 5, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Agrace Grief Support Center in Fitchburg.
- **Bridges** is for adults grieving the death of any loved one. Meetings are held every other Wednesday and pre-registration is required. In March, in-person meetings are March 1 and 15, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. Virtual meetings are [March 8 and 22, from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.](#)

Agrace Adult Day Center Offers Daytime Care

Do you care for or know an older adult who cannot—or chooses not to—stay alone all day? The Agrace Adult Day Center in Madison gives seniors the reassurance and comfort of having others with them throughout the day. It's especially helpful for people who have dementia or trouble with their memory, and can be a welcome break for fam-



March 4 Megan Fahey
 March 12 Barbara Sackett
 March 16 Nancy Cox
 March 19 John Mehl

January Financial Snapshot

First Presbyterian Church of Oregon				
Monthly Financial Summary				
as of	January 31, 2023			
		Monthly	Year-to-date	Year-to-date
		Amount	Actual	Budget
Pledges Committed (Annual Budget \$117,440)				
	Operating Cash Revenue from Pledges	\$ 10,412	\$ 10,412	\$ 9,787
Operating Income				
		January	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
	Total Income	\$ 12,228	\$ 12,228	\$ 10,979
	Deduct: Total Expenses	\$ 8,315	\$ 8,315	\$ 16,853
Adjustments to Cash:				
	Add: Transfer from Current Assets	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
	Deduct: Transfer Memorial Fund Donations	\$ 110	\$ 110	\$ -
	Deduct: Principal Payment on Debt	\$ 785	\$ 785	\$ -
Net Operating Income (Loss) ADJUSTED				
		\$ 3,018	\$ 3,018	\$ (5,874)
Cash Balance-Operating Fund				
		January	Year-to-date	
	Beginning Balance	\$ 28,322	\$ 28,322	
	Ending Balance	\$ 31,204	\$ 31,204	
	Increase in Available Operating Funds	\$ 2,882	\$ 2,882	

Per Capita for 2023— The Per Capita payment for each FPC member this year is **\$35.15 per person**. As you are able, please place your check made out to FPC in the offering plate or mail it to the church, or you may pay via our online giving page. Your per capita payment is much appreciated by the church and helps to meet our budget.