

October

2022

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



From the Interim Pastor's Study

Dear Friends:

I am so grateful for the send-off for me last Sunday as I ended my term as your Interim Pastor. It was fun and reflected the connection I felt serving you for just over a year. You served some of my favorite brunch foods.

Paul and I will make good use of the gift certificate for American Players Theater — one of our favorite places to go. My grandchildren helped to make a dent in the chocolate chip cookies—and the bowl they were in is beautiful. My grandson was thrilled that I have lots of Packer paraphernalia. (We managed not to use the napkins for the chocolate chip cookies, but saving for game watching at a later date.) Right now the mug (still with flowers) and the "dirt" are on the shelf over my desk — fitting memories of our time together — until mid-afternoon tea beckons.

I give thanks to God for our time together.

Blessings,

Pastor Sue



Mission



PPOW —October Collection

October PPOW will be collecting *toothbrushes, toothpaste and bar soap*. We will be delivering these items, along with the shampoo and conditioner donated in September, to our (now up to) 12 families in November.



As a heads up, in November we will be asking for canned fruit (mandarin oranges, pineapple, peaches and pears) and in December we will have a cookie exchange. You may remember we did a cookie exchange several years ago (maybe 2019?) which was a big hit with our FPC bakers as well as our families.



This year we hope to invite our PPOW families to participate with us.



As always, thank you for your generous donations to PPOW every month. We couldn't do this program without you!

PPOW Distribution in September

In the September grocery distribution, we had 12 families. We are grateful to ALL the people who are giving extra food for the families through the monthly collections or supplying extra groceries each month. PPOW's success is due to the generosity of our congregation. Thank you!! We have met more of our



families over the past several distributions and they are all grateful for our support.





PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS

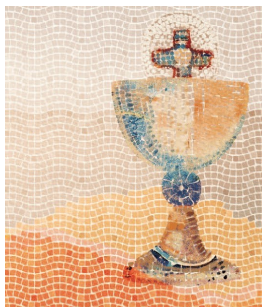
SPECIAL OFFERINGS

PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

World Communion Sunday, October 2

On October 2 we will be receiving the Peace and Global Witness Offering. This offering draws Presbyterians together as active peacemakers and provides education and expose to those who show us how to do this work well. It allows us to create

resources for dealing with conflict and nurturing reconciliation and stand in support of our global sisters and brothers, because the peace of Christ belongs to people everywhere. By giving to the Peace and Global Witness offering, we work to share Christ's peace with one another. beyond our doors, beyond our communities and across boundaries.



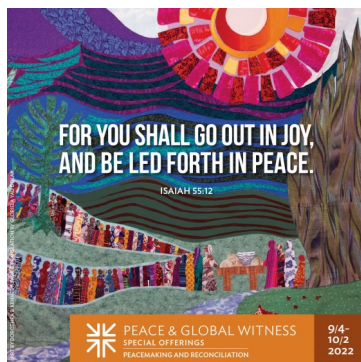
THANK YOU, GOD FOR CONNECTING US.

Thank you for neighbors, each with needs and gifts to share, and for our church, the Whole Church, together, and for Jesus Christ, Amen.



PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION

9/4-
10/2
2022



25% of this offering is retained by our congregation to support peacemaking in our community, 25% is given to presbyteries and synods and 50% goes to the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice issues in cultures of violence, including our own. When we join with other congregations in supporting this offering we participate in peace efforts in the wider world. By retaining a portion of this offering, we also support our local community as we strive for peaceful solutions to local problems.

The Mission Committee at FPC decided this year to support the Open Doors for Refugees organization with the 25% of the offering that is for local peacemaking efforts.

Open Doors for Refugees is a non profit organization based in Madison. This all-volunteer ministry assists refugees in making a home by helping set up apartments with furnishings, providing translation, transportation, English as a Second Language classes, childcare and employment services for arriving refugees.



Open Doors works with refugees who have been selected by the UN refugee program and vetted by the US government. They come from many different countries and often wait many years to be able to come here.

Thank-You from Meriter Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Unit



Our congregation received a thank you note from the Meriter Child & Adolescent Psychiatry Unit for our \$240 gift which was the local part of the Pentecost Special Offering which supports young people. "Thank you for your meaningful gift to Child & Adolescent Psychiatry. Your support makes it possible for us to care for kids in mental health crisis - and their families. You stepped forward at a particularly critical time, responding without hesitation to the heightened mental health trouble children are facing as a result of the pandemic."



Kids have turned to us for hope, healing, and compassionate mental health care, and because of you, we can say "yes" to a child and family with nowhere else to turn. From all of us at the Meriter Foundation, thank you for your generosity and for believing in this important work."



Thank-You for Special Offering Support

In 2021, our congregation contributed \$2,891.15 to the four Special Offerings collected through out the year. Thank you for your generosity and helping those in need!! The Presbyterian Mission Agency wrote "Your gift to Presbyterian Mission are a blessing for all of God's family. When combined with the gifts of Presbyterians throughout the U.S., your support brings God's love and Christ's presence in times of loss, disaster, pain, pandemic, and war. Your discipleship becomes real through your acts of generosity. We give thanks for you."



PNC Update

During the summer the PNC interviewed two potential candidates and decided that one was a good match. In September we invited this candidate to visit FPC. Unfortunately, with additional information we obtained after that visit, the PNC prayerfully decided it would not be in the best interest of the church (or the candidate) to hire this person. We were assured by Pastor Sue that this is not uncommon at all! So, with some tweaks to the MIF, the PNC will begin searching again for the right person to fill our pastor position. We appreciate the patience of the congregation in this process.

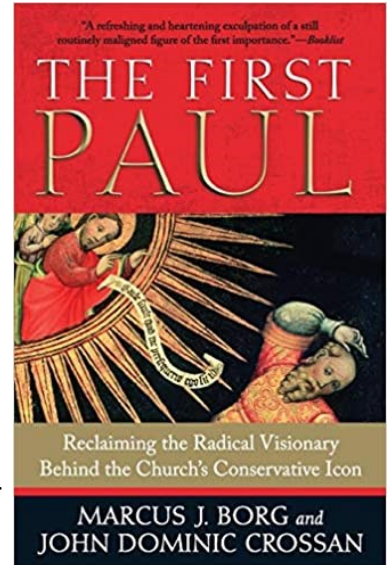
Christian Ed

Adult Bible Study - 1st and 3rd Tuesdays

The adult bible study course will resume this fall, starting on Tuesday, September 20. George Jura has generously agreed to lead the group again. The group will meet via Zoom the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month.

This fall we will be reading:

The First Paul: Reclaiming the Radical Visionary Behind the Church's Conservative Icon by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan.



All members of the church, and friends, are welcome to participate. Please let Mike Fahey, mikefaheywi@gmail.com, know if you are interested in participating.



Session Updates from September

Session actions at the September meeting related to discussions regarding the search for a new pastor. See the article on the Pastoral Nominating Committee elsewhere in this Newsletter.

Respectfully submitted,

Tom Niebauer, Clerk of Session

Emergency Pastoral Care Needs

If you are in need of emergency pastoral care before we have a new interim pastor, please contact the church office (608-835-3082), Dave Hanson (608-469-8213), Tom Niebauer (608-513-3726) or Renee Martell (608-835-8557). These people will connect you with a pastor who is on-call for us during this time.

[illegible]

We will celebrate **Consecration Sunday**, dedicating your pledges of financial support for FPC in 2023! Then you're invited to stay for a provided luncheon and time of fellowship after worship. Details will be available in a future weekly Opportunities for Discipleship.

Oregon Community Blood Drive

Oregon Community Blood Drive
People's United Methodist
Church



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Agrace Offers Opportunities for Grief Support in October

In October, Agrace grief support specialists are offering one-on-one grief support, professionally led grief support groups and education opportunities to *anyone*, even if the person who died did not have hospice care:

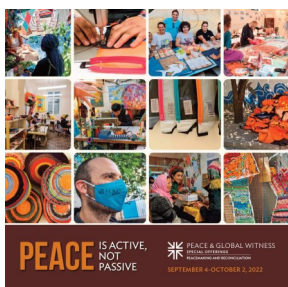
- **One-on-one grief support** is available in-person, by phone or video chat.
- **Bridges (in-person)** meets at the Agrace Grief Support Center October 5 and 19, from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m.
- **Bridges (virtual)** meets online October 12 and 26, from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

Pre-registration is required for all groups and one-on-one appointments. For details, fees or to register, visit Agrace.org/GriefGroups or call (608) 327-7118.

Volunteers Needed 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, October 11, 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 and fill out an application.





October

Oct. 2 Marjorie Beers
 Oct. 4 Rebekah Krenz
 Oct. 5 Nadine Krenz
 Oct. 7 Karen Robinson, Jackie Mastny, & Pamela Mullarkey
 Oct. 25 Kimberly Finnessy
 Oct. 30 Mark Jozefowicz

August Financial Snapshot

First Presbyterian Church of Oregon				
Monthly Financial Summary				
as of	August 31, 2022			
		Monthly Amount	Year-to-date Actual	Year-to-date Budget
Pledges Committed (Annual Budget \$128,420)				
	Operating Cash Revenue from Pledges	\$ 7,781	\$ 75,665	\$ 85,613
Operating Income				
		August	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
	Total Income	\$ 8,821	\$ 93,411	\$ 95,520
	Deduct: Total Expenses	\$ 16,079	\$ 100,597	\$ 95,928
Adjustments to Cash:				
	Add: Transfer from Current Assets	\$ -		\$ -
	Deduct: Transfer Memorial Fund Donations	\$ 200	\$ 4,175	\$ -
	Deduct: Principal Payment on Debt	\$ 813	\$ 6,173	\$ -
Net Operating Income (Loss) ADJUSTED		\$ (8,271)	\$ (17,535)	\$ (408)
Cash Balance-Operating Fund				
		August	Year-to-date	
	Beginning Balance	\$ 32,900	\$ 40,994	
	Ending Balance	\$ 27,492	\$ 27,492	
	Increase in Available Operating Funds	\$ (5,408)	\$ (13,502)	

Per Capita for 2022 — If you have not yet paid, please complete your Per Capita payment for 2022, as you are financially able. You have three ways to make your payment: a check to the church left in the offering plate on Sunday, a check mailed to the church, or via our online giving page. The amount this year is **\$33.70 per church member**, including children who may no longer be living at home. Payment of your per capita is much appreciated by the church and helps meet our budget.