

THE PRESBYTERIAN BRIDGE

Celebrating our uniqueness

Coming together in Christ



INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF MENOMINEE

PIONEER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MARCH 2018



Supper Series
"Lent Around the World"

Mar. 7 | First United Methodist Church, Menominee
5:30 pm Meal & Lesson

Mar. 14 | Pioneer Presbyterian Church
5:30 pm Meal & Lesson

Mar. 21 | First United Methodist Church, Marinette
5:30 pm Meal & Lesson

Save the Date!!

We will be celebrating our Worship and Picnic at the River with both Pioneer Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Menominee on Sunday, August 12th.



HOLY WEEK

Maundy Thursday Service
March 29

Peace United Church of Christ, Marinette
6:00 pm

Community Good Friday Service
March 30

First Presbyterian Church of Menominee
12:00 noon - 3:00 pm
(services will be 30 minute segments with music, prayer and homily)

Easter Sunrise Service
April 1

6:00 am
Schloegel's Bay View Restaurant

Easter Morning Services
Pioneer Presbyterian Church
9:00 am

First Presbyterian Church of Menominee
10:30 am

And this is the promise which He himself made to us - eternal life.
1 John 2:25

FASTING, TAXES AND EASTER

Could paying your taxes be considered a spiritual discipline? Perhaps that is a stretch. However, Jesus did say, “Render unto Caesar what is Caesar’s and to God what is God’s.” As we move further into Lent, many of us are practicing the art of spiritual discipline within our daily lives. Some of us are reading Scripture, fasting, and/or praying. And since it is also tax time, I was wondering if paying our taxes might also be considered a Lenten spiritual discipline as well?

Lent is about dying to one’s self and handing over our control to God. It has been said that the two things you can’t avoid are death and taxes, so in a sense paying our taxes can be considered a means of handing over our control to a higher power. I don’t know of many who like to pay taxes, but our money is an area that we have difficulty handing over to God or any other power above us.

We often compartmentalize our lives and separate our worldly affairs from our church affairs. When we do this, we miss out on the bigger picture of Christ who taught that everything we have should be held in thanksgiving of God.

When Jesus said these words about taxes, the Pharisees were trying to trick him into siding with or against Rome. Jesus saw through their scheme and cleverly referenced the impression of Caesar that was cast onto Roman money. He was not suggesting that there is a separation between worldly affairs and heavenly affairs. He was simply refusing to get caught up in the schemes of the Pharisees.

It would be fair to say that Jesus did not care about money in the same way that many of us care about money. It is not that money is bad; however, we often hold onto it for our stability and the message of Jesus is that our security can only be found in God.

Therefore, I do believe that paying your taxes can be a spiritual discipline if it helps you to hand over control and focus on what is truly

important in life. However, I do not mean that we should disconnect ourselves from demanding the proper and just use of our taxes by our government. We are fortunate to live in a country that gives us a voice in the dealings of our government, a luxury that was not afforded to Palestinian Jews of Jesus’ day.

As Christians and citizens, the paying of our taxes is not left up to most of us to decide. However, we can be engaged in the discussion of how those taxes should be allocated and used. As Reformed Christians, we look to Scripture to be our guide in these matters of conscience. We also live in the reality that we live in a fallen world and even the best intentions of humankind often falls short of the goals of God.

Our hope is not in the governments of this world but in our world’s redemption through Jesus Christ. That is the hope we find waiting for us at the cross.

I pray that your Lenten journey will be a fruitful one. May you be guided in all of your pursuits to “let go and let God.” And may you wake up on Easter morning, confirmed in God’s grace and the knowledge that God shall see us through to the end.

Blessings in Christ,



Pastor Jon

Reprinted from March 2013

DEADLINE for the April 2018 Issue of The Presbyterian Bridge is **MARCH 20th**. To ensure that your article will be included, **please submit your materials on time!**

March ~

BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Barb Kopish
6 Loretta Humphrey
Rev. Joe Stanley
7 Rich Campbell
8 Avis Nelson
Jean Eggener
12 Vicki Lenca
18 Joan Campbell
26 Herman Pottratz
31 Sue Erdman

LITURGISTS

- 4 Sarah Austad
11 Marilyn Galineau
18 Claudia Campbell
25 Rich Ulrich

MUSICIANS

- 4 Marilyn Schoen
11 Marilyn Schoen
18 Joan Campbell
25 Voices of Peace

Peanut Guild Thank You Letters

The following are excerpts from the thank you letters we have received for the Peanut Guild donations that were made at the end of 2017.

Abundant Life Mission Homeless Shelter: *“With contributions like yours we have been able to serve over 245 adults and 75 children throughout the year. It is because of you that this mission is a success. May all those who seek help at the Abundant Life Mission and those who serve them, be a witness to the love of God in our world.”*

Society of St. Vincent de Paul: *“We wish to thank you for your most generous gift for our community’s needy. We truly need and appreciate your help. Such gifts make our Father in Heaven smile when he sees you sharing your blessings.”*

Menominee Animal Shelter: *“Thank you for sharing the proceeds of your famous Presbyterian Peanuts sale with us. Your generosity helps our Staff and Volunteers in providing the best possible care for the residents of the Menominee Animal Shelter.”*

Family Activity Night

Families, youth and kids will be serving the Lenten Supper on March 14 at Pioneer Presbyterian. Any questions, please contact JoAnne Nipple.

Spring Flowers for Easter

If you would like to memorialize or honor family members or friends, and help decorate the Pioneer sanctuary for Easter with a spring plant, please contact Darlene or fill out the bulletin insert. The choice of spring plants this year are Easter Lily or Tulip. Cost will be \$12 for Lily and \$13 for Tulip, and they will be provided by the floral department at Jack’s. Orders and payments should be in the Pioneer office by Monday, March 19.

Coffee Hour Hosts

We are in need of coffee hour hosts. Please call the church office to inquire about availability or check the calendar in the Galilean Room. Thank you for considering!



Book Sale & Bake Sale

Delta Kappa Gamma (DKG) will be holding their annual book sale in the Galilean Room on **April 6 from 4-7 and on April 7 from 8-12**. We need your help donating baked goods! The people who come to the book sale know there are some very good bakers in our congregation and look forward to picking up some of these “goodies” when they come to look for books.

Please consider making a donation of bread, candy, cookies, pies, bars, or any other pastry, or jelly or jam. Drop them off on **Friday April 6th in the kitchen**. If you are not a baker this is a great opportunity to buy some very tasty baked goods but come early as they go quickly.

PALM
Sunday

Brunch

March 25

following the service.

Following last year’s wonderful brunch, this year the Outreach/Fellowship committee has decided it will again be providing the meal and will ask for a free will offering to offset some of the cost.

Ellis Langjahr has created our menu for that day - garlic roasted potatoes, ham, kielbasa sausage, scrambled eggs, an egg bake, French toast, hash brown cheesy casserole and assorted fruit and beverages.

Don’t miss this opportunity to enjoy good food and fellowship!!

What is Per Capita?

The Session has been asked to clarify what Per Capita means and how our money is used by the Presbytery.

Per capita is a set amount of money (apportionment) per member that congregations pay to the larger Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). Because every Presbyterian shares in the benefit of the PC(USA)’s system of government, the expenses associated with coordinating and performing the functions of that system should be shared by everyone as well.

Who pays per capita, and how much?

Congregations (through their sessions) pay an annual amount of money per church member — per capita apportionment — to their respective presbyteries. The per capita amount requested from a congregation is a combined total of requests from that congregation’s presbytery, the synod in which the presbytery is located, and the General Assembly — based on their respective budgets for the coming year(s).

Pioneer Presbyterian is asked by Winnebago Presbytery to pay a total of \$3,709.65, or \$35.33 per member. That amount breaks down as follows:

- Presbytery of Winnebago per capita rate is \$22.20 per member
- Synod of Lakes & Prairies per capita rate is \$5.40 per member
- General Assembly’s per capita rate is \$7.73 per member

Each pledging member has an envelope in their box for Per Capita giving. Please consider making this contribution. It would greatly help our budget.

The Finance Committee

Book Club

The next meeting for the Book Club will be March 22nd at 6:30 P.M. We meet at Harbors in the fourth- floor library. This month's selection is "*A disposition to be Rich: Ferdinand Ward, the Greatest Swindler of the Gilded Age*" by Geoffrey C. Ward.

As always, we welcome new members and would love to have you join us to share your favorite books with us. If you need a ride, please call Janet Johnson at 906-863-7496.

Mission News

We will continue to collect personal items for men, women, and teens. These items will be donated to The Abundant Life Mission (the homeless shelter). Please place your donations in the basket in the Gathering Room. Thank You!

150th Anniversary News

Our 150th Anniversary theme for March is the rededication of our congregation to our church body which includes Presbytery Point. If anyone has a story or camp experience to share about Presbytery Point, please contact Pat Johnson at 906-863-2943.

Presbyterian Women

The Presbyterian Women's Club will meet on Thursday March 1st, in the library at 10:00 a.m. This is open to everyone and hope that you will join us. The Spring Rummage Sale will be held on Saturday, May 5th. When you are doing your spring cleaning – think of us!!!! The more treasures the better the sale.

March Birthdays



4	Ken Draska
4	Nicole Stripling
5	Julee Miller
6	Erik Pohlmann
10	Kristin Stepniak
10	Sophie Pohlmann
16	Sandy Berggren
17	Pat Menard
18	David Higley
19	Linda Engeldinger
19	Anita Draska
19	Ashley Stepniak
26	Steve Engeldinger
29	Lynn Hofer
30	Ed Nelson

Reminders

The first Sunday of each month is the Food Pantry Collection. One of the Deacons gather up the donations and distribute to the local food pantries.

The loose coin offering is collected the third Sunday of each month. All dollar bills and coin are donated to a special mission of our choice.

Anyone wishing to sign up for Flowers or Coffee Hour can do so on the bulletin board in the Gathering Room. The sign-up sheets are for a three-month period but if there is a special date that isn't there and you would like to reserve it, please contact the church office and it will be reserved on the calendar.

If you know of someone who would like to be added to our current homebound church list, please contact the church office as we update it frequently at 906-863-3889. A Deacon will be contacting the individual to setup home visits and discuss their needs.

NEWS

for

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF MENOMINEE

Deacon's Doings

- The deacons met on February 5, 2018.
- Food donations were distributed by Ann Schultz.
- Arrangements for the Feb. 11th Coffee Hour were made by Helen Thibodeau.
- We purchased a white rose for the funeral of Daniel Payne.
- Over 100 cards for the prayer table were donated by Helen Thibodeau.
- Assisting Pastor Jon at the Harbors services:
February 15 - Carol Symyneshen

March 1 - Anita Draska and Mary Ann Langill will help with Communion

March 15 - Carol Symyneshen

- Calls will be made to find someone to help Pastor Jon with the March 4 Homebound Communion.
- March 4 Communion set up and clean up at our church will be done by Karen Fehrenbach and Linda Majkrzak.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday April 4, 2018.

Easter Flowers and Directory Update Form

Enclosed in this newsletter you will find a form for Easter Flowers and an update for the 2018 directory (next page), please take a minute to check them out. The next directory will be printed in early spring so we want to make sure there is enough time to receive the form and return. As usual the Easter Flowers will be available from The Flower Gallery so if you would like to honor or remember a loved one, this is the perfect way. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the church office at 908-863-3889.

Please place my order for Easter Lilies.

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Easter Lilies will be available for purchase in each church; call for prices. Please return this form to the church office by March 23rd or email order to office@fpcmenominee.org. You may also call the FPC office at 906-863-3889 with your order. Payment is due by March 23rd. Please make your check payable to First Presbyterian Church. This is a great opportunity to honor or remember a loved one and help decorate the sanctuary at the same time. Single bloom Easter lilies average \$14.00 and double bloom Easter lilies \$26.00. There are other flowers available – Daffodils, hyacinth and tulips 6” pot \$16.00.

(Please circle one) (Name)

1) Memory Honor _____

2) Memory Honor _____

3) Memory Honor _____

Directory Update Information 2018

Family Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Email address: _____

If your child does not live in your household, please provide address, phone and email.

Birthdays:

Husband Name & Birthday: _____

Wife Name & Birthday: _____

Child Name & Birthday: _____

Child Name & Birthday: _____

Child Name & Birthday: _____

Thank you for your assistance!



Celebrating our uniqueness • Coming together in Christ

Pastor Jon Nelson • 715-587-8731

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF MENOMINEE

923 5th Street
Menominee, MI 49858
906-863-3889
office@fpcmenominee.org
www.fpcmenominee.org

Administrative Hours:

Mon. - Thurs.
8:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

SESSION

Clerk of Session • Donna Rife
Building & Grounds • Steve Engeldinger
Christian Education •
Fellowship • Steve Engeldinger
Finance •
Mission • Patricia Johnson & Jane Stripling
Personnel • Sam Hofer
Worship • DeeAnne Polhmann
Evangelism/Membership • Sam Hofer

BOARD OF DEACONS

Moderator • Karen Menard

Anita Draska	Mary Nelson
Karen Fehrenbach	Sue Plautz
MaryAnn Langill	Ann Schultz
Linda Majkrzak	Carol Symyneshen
Karen Menard	Helen Thibodeau
Carol Mick	

PIONEER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

1947 Riverside Avenue
Marinette, WI 54143
715-735-3025
office@pioneermarinette.org
www.pioneermarinette.org

Administrative Hours:

Mon. - Thurs.
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 noon

SESSION

Clerk of Session • Karen Bickel
Administration • Liz Murphy
Building & Grounds • Joe Reines
Christian Education • Ann Eggener
Finance • Bill Lenca
Memorial & Mission • Karen Bickel
Outreach & Fellowship • Ellis Langjhar
Personnel • Karen Buyarski
Worship & Music • Rich Ulrich
Nominating • Joe Reines

BOARD OF DEACONS

Co-Moderators • Marilyn Galineau | Pat Pottratz
Secretary • Linda Baumler

Sarah Austad	Karen Hipwell
Linda Baumler	Barb Kopish
Marguerite Braley	Sue Ochs
Karen Curtis	Myrna Stanley
Mark Franzen	