

First Things First

May 2019

Spring Setbacks

Isn't spring wonderful? What a joy it is to watch the annual rebirth as tulips venture up out of the earth, grass transforms from brown to green, and trees explode into bloom seemingly overnight! God's magnificence manifests itself in every bud, every blossom.

But sometimes there are setbacks. A front moves in bringing cold and sleet and snow. It's not what you expect: You feel disappointed, perhaps even disheartened.

That's much like where First Pres is right now. After much searching, we thought we had found in Susan McDougall the pastor who would lead us into the future. We presented her with (symbolic and real) keys to the church. She was to be examined at the May Presbytery meeting. She'd started planning her ordination service back in California.

But then Susan notified us she would not be accepting the position. God was not calling her to First Pres Waukesha after all.

It's not what we expected. We feel disappointed, perhaps even disheartened.

But do take heart! We are still God's people, doing God's work, both inside and outside our church walls – that's not dependent upon having a pastor. God is with us on every step of our journey, in our search for a new pastor and in our daily lives. Let us pray to God to show us the way forward for First Pres. Let us also pray that Susan finds her call.

The Session has already restarted the pastoral search process, and this time we will be posting the position on the Church Leadership Connection, a nationwide network. Meanwhile, we already have pulpit supply lined up for the next three months: We'll be seeing more of some familiar friends, which is an unexpected blessing!*

Remember, God is evident not only in the buds and blossoms of spring, but also in the chilly beauty of snowflakes and ice crystals. It might now be what we were expecting, but it is all a part of God's wondrous plan.

Peace and blessings,
Jim Ziegler, Elder for Worship

May Calendar



MAY 5

- 10:00 AM** **Worship**
Communion Sunday
Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM** **Preschool Sunday School**
Nursery
- 11:00 AM** **Congregational Meeting**
- 11:15 AM** **Coffee Fellowship**
Oak Room

MAY 8

- 6:30 PM** **Deacon's Meeting**
Oak Room

MAY 12

- 10:00 AM** **Worship**
Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM** **Preschool Sunday School**
Nursery
- 11:00 AM** **Baked Potato Bar Fellowship***
Dining Room

MAY 13

- 5:30 PM** **Session Meeting**
Office

MAY 16

- 8:00 AM** **Men's Breakfast**
Dady-Oh's

MAY 19

- 10:00 AM** **Worship**
Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM** **Preschool Sunday School**
Nursery
- 11:00 AM** **Coffee Fellowship**
Oak Room
- 11:15 AM** **Adult Education (TBA)**
Oak Room

MAY 20 **Newsletter Articles Deadline***

MAY 21

- 3:30 PM** **Presbytery Meeting***
Wauwatosa Presbyterian Church
2366 North 80th Street
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

MAY 26

- 10:00 AM** **Worship**
Sanctuary
- 10:00 AM** **Preschool Sunday School**
Nursery
- 11:00 AM** **Coffee Fellowship**
Oak Room
- 11:15 AM** **Adult Education (TBA)**
Oak Room



MAY 27 **Office Closed for Memorial Day**

*see article

May Birthdays

- 5/3 Calvin Volmar
5/3 Riley Burgett
5/7 Tony Bryant
5/8 Barb Armagost
5/9 Shelley Stover
5/11 Brianne Sura
5/12 Dan Pugh
5/17 Ellen Seeling
5/23 Julie Sanicola
5/30 Beatriss Byshenk
5/31 Frank Churchill



Please note office hours are Monday through Thursday, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

The office is closed Monday, May 27, in observance of Memorial Day.

Have something for the **Summer** newsletter? Please send it to presby1@sbcglobal.net or drop it in Therese's mailbox by **Monday, May 20** to have it included. Any items received after the 20th will be included in the September newsletter.

First Pres Congregational Meeting

We will have a very brief congregational meeting on **May 5 immediately after worship** for the purpose of electing an at-large member to fill a vacancy on the Endowment Committee. Please plan on attending.

Baked Potato Bar



Everyone is invited to join us, **Sunday, May 12** for our **Baked Potato Fellowship in the Dining Room**. Attendees are requested to bring their favorite potato toppings, salads, and desserts.

The church will prepare baked potatoes and provide butter, sour cream, cheese, chives, bacon, salsa, and beverages.



The Jubilate Chorale invites

you to join us on an uplifting musical journey from the earth's dark depths to a shining heavenly home on Saturday, May 18th and Sunday, May 19th. *Unclouded Day* features Sean Kirchner's moving trilogy of American songs including the popular "Angel Band," along with works by Maurice Duruflé, Ola Gjeilo, Morten Lauridsen and Paul Halley. The concerts celebrate the 25th anniversary year of the founding of Jubilate Chorale and showcase a full range of genres from a motet of Gregorian plainsong to traditional spirituals, Gospel, pop and contemporary styles.

Saturday, May 18th 7:30pm. at St. Luke's Lutheran Church, 300 Carroll St., Waukesha, WI.

Sunday, May 19th 4:00p.m. at Our Savior's Lutheran Church, 145 East Lisbon Road, Oconomowoc, WI.

For ticket information, call (262) 290-5321 or visit www.jubilatechorale.org.

Presbytery of Milwaukee Meeting

The May presbytery meeting will soon be upon us and it is time to start registering for our gathering. As we continue on our journey of Reconciliation, we turn to the issues of racial reconciliation. On **Tuesday, May 21**, we will gather at **Wauwatosa Presbyterian Church, 2366 North 80th Street, Wauwatosa, WI** to worship, listen, reflect, and conduct business as is appropriate. Our speaker that day will be Dr. Robin DiAngelo, the author of the book *White Fragility*. Dr. DiAngelo will talk with us about how white people can find hard conversations about race uncomfortable and work (often unconsciously) to reinstate control and avoid the topic all together. This, unfortunately, runs counter to our call as followers of Christ to engage the hard work of reconciliation. We will also hear how we can work to counter this tendency in ourselves and our broader culture to help us be reconciled to each other as Christ reconciled us to God. To register, **contact Christine Halverson at (414)292-2790 or go to www.pbymilwaukee.org and follow the links.**



Hospital or Care Visits

While it is our wish that all of our members stay healthy and strong, if you, or someone you love, is in the hospital or a care facility, **please call the church office at (262) 542-4243** to let us know. The deacons would like to have the opportunity to visit, and to meet whatever needs come up while you are on the mend.

Session Recap

The April Session meeting was delayed until the 10th, so that Susan McDougall could be present. We felt it important to get her up to speed on Session business. We worked out a temporary contract with Susan, which was intended to remain in place until she was ordained and officially became our Stated Supply pastor.

The Session approved a congregational meeting for May 5 for electing an at-large member to the Endowment Committee. We discussed holding confirmation classes and the possibility of taking part in a youth mission trip. We determined which dates we would need pulpit supply for until Susan would have been ordained. As for Mission business, we planned the One Great Hour of Sharing collection for Easter Sunday and talked about how to spend the international mission budget. It was noted as well that First Presbyterian now has an Instagram and Twitter account, in addition to the existing Facebook page. All are linked from the FirstPresWaukesha.org website.

Pulpit Supply Schedule

May 5 - Rev. Kathryn Craven (Communion Sunday; congregational meeting)

May 12 – Rev. Jerry Kramer

May 19 – Rev. Kathryn Craven

May 26 - Hymn Sing

June 2 - Rev. Kathryn Craven (Communion Sunday)

June 9 - Rev. Kathryn Craven

June 16 - Rev. Kathryn Craven

June 23 - Andrew Byshenk

June 30 - Rev. Jerry Kramer

July 7 - Joint worship at Southminster Presbyterian Church (Communion Sunday)

July 14 – Rev. Kathryn Craven

July 21 – Rev. Kathryn Craven

July 28 - Rachel Yates, Presbytery Executive

(Subject to change, should we find a pastor within this time frame.)

Hope Center Golf Outing

July 15, 2019 at Broadlands Golf Club.



Event Highlights:

- Buffet Lunch and 18 holes of golf
- Par 3 Challenge/team Photo Op with former Brewer Gorman Thomas
- "Putting with Paul" Putting Contest with County Executive Paul Farrow
- After-golf Social with heavy Hors d'oeuvres and Mega Raffle
- NEW "Jar Raffle" section that includes a chance at a California condo week!
- Evening Social-Only attendance option!

Registration materials and other information available at hopecenterwi.org or call (262) 392-6320. Cost: \$125.



2019 Per Capita

Per Capita for 2019 in the Presbytery of Milwaukee is \$38.00. Please consider contributing your per capita so that First Presbyterian might use your share elsewhere in the budget. Thank you!