



Voice of the Servant



2023

Points of Interest:

- ⇒ MASS Pork Chop BBQ, Pg. 2
- ⇒ Thank you Brady, Pg. 2
- ⇒ Calendar, Pg. 6



Mission Statement

Empowered by the Holy Spirit through every aspect of our lives, we strive to be Empowered by the Holy Spirit Through every aspect of our lives, We strive to become more like Christ. Our purpose is to praise and worship God, support each other as a family, and reach out to others to spread the good news



Church Family and Friends,

What better way to enter the season of Peace and Global Mission than by having a visit from our Blackhawk Presbytery partners Professor Kaburu and Kajuju from Imenti Central Presbytery. Kaburu spoke to us about living out our Christian Identity and fighting church climate change. It was a reminder that God's calling is to lead to global healing and true peace.

World Communion on October 1 culminates this season of peace and will be when we dedicate our Peace and Global Mission Offering. We will celebrate that Christ's peace extends throughout all creation. We will celebrate that we are connected, we are loved and we are not alone. We will worship together and be fed from Scripture and be fed at Christ's table of peace.

According to the Matthew 25 initiative, the fifth indicator of church vitality is...

Spirit-inspired worship that challenges, teaches, transforms, convicts and energizes us so when we are sent out, we have experienced the wonder of God and are changed for the better from when we arrived.

This is a high bar, but it reminds us that true worship changes us. My prayer is that you consider joining us, in-person or online, for worship understanding that its purpose is to change you and that our worship together changes us. Our Kenya friends shared at our Presbytery meeting that they change peoples' lives and win souls by talking about Jesus. It was a simple reminder that our change agent in worship and in our lives is Jesus Christ.

May we see Christ in the people in our lives and let the Christ in us respond accordingly. Jesus says, *"I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!"*

By grace together,
Laurie Walker
Covenant Pastor





700 13th Avenue, Mendota, IL
Has begun "The Giving Pump"

One cent per gallon will go back to the community. Kate will match the donation, Tom Prescott will match up to 500.00 and an anonymous person will also match!
Four Cents per gallon!



We have a lending closet which is available to anyone. There are walkers, wheelchairs, canes, crutches, shower chairs, and other miscellaneous items.



Thank You



PORK CHOP BARBECUE

SPONSORED BY
MENDOTA AREA SENIOR SERVICES

Wednesday, October 4, 2023

Serving from 4:30 PM - 7:00 PM

AT
Mendota Civic Center

Advance Tickets Are Available at MASS and Mendota Area Banks

MENU INCLUDES

2 BBQ PORK CHOPS POTATO SALAD
BAKED BEANS ROLL & BUTTER COOKIE
\$15.00
Kids Hot Dog Special - \$4.00



~DRIVE THRU ONLY~



On Sunday, September 24, 2023 we bid a fond farewell to Brady Hughes after he shared his piano skills with us for the last time. We honored him with a cake reception, card, and monetary gift after church. He has decided to step away from accompanist duties at First Presbyterian to concentrate his time on achieving his Master's degree in musicology at the U of I. He has served here in various capacities since 2017 when he began as a substitute pianist. He served as our Director of Music for a year, left, then came back eventually as one of three regularly rotating pianists. Over the years he has not only shared his piano skills, but has played the organ a few times, and even gave concerts with friends that's how cased his vocal abilities as well. In everything he did, he exhibited professionalism, good humor, and grace. We are sad to say goodbye, but wish him the best in his future endeavors. He has promised not to stay a stranger so we may hear him again in the future.

Micropantry



Pasta	Peanut Butter	Baked Beans
Pasta Sauce	Canned Vegetables	Hungry Mac
Hearty Soups	Canned Fruit	Sloppy Joes
Noodle Packages	Meal Sides (<i>Rice-A-Roni, pasta with cheese etc.</i>)	Shampoo
Rice Packages	Family size Mac & Cheese	Dish Soap
Cereal	Hamburger Helper Meals	Tampons
Oatmeal	Mashed Potatoes	
Canned Meats	Snacks	
Crackers		

Thank you for your continued support by helping keep basic meals available 24 hours a day to families in our community.
Please consider helping re-stock the Micropantry during the week.
There is a sign up on the table in Fellowship Hall.

Check out the Facebook page: facebook.com/MendotaMicroPantry

October Lectionary Readings

01—Exodus 17:1-7, Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16; Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32; Psalm 25:1-9; Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32

08—Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9; Psalm 19; Isaiah 5:1-7; Psalm 80:7-15; Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

15—Exodus 32:1-14; Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23; Isaiah 25:1-9, Psalm 23; Philippians 4: 1-9; Matthew 22:1-14

22—Exodus 33: 12-23; Psalm 99; Isaiah 45:1-7; Psalm 96:1-9 (10-13); 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22

29—Deuteronomy 34:1-2; Psalm 90: 1-6,, 13-17; Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18; Psalm 1; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46



2023

Per Capita
is \$42.00
Per Person
Per year

Income and Expenses at First Presbyterian		
August 2023		
	MTD	YTD
Budget	\$9,555	\$76,443
Income	\$4,685	\$68,169
Expenses	\$8,090	\$55,248
Reserves	\$-	\$-

Weekly Coffee Hour

Please sign up to bring cookies or baked goods and to make coffee and set out cheese, crackers and juice the morning of. Juice, coffee, cheese & crackers are supplied by the Fellowship Committee.
The sign-up is on the wall outside the Kitchen.

October Coffee Hour

01	Diane Moore
08	Second Sunday Breakfast
15	
22	
29	

Second Sunday Breakfast

October 8, 9 AM
Please bring a breakfast goodie or dish to pass.
 We will provide drinks and table service.
 If you have questions, please contact Diane Moore.

Poinsettias to beautify the sanctuary!



_____ Red



_____ White



_____ Pink

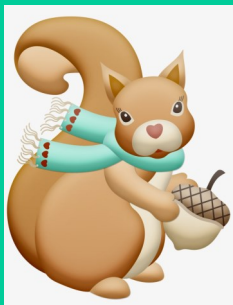
\$10 Each

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

With Thanks/Appreciation to: _____

Purchased by: _____



Head Start

First Presbyterian Church has adopted The Head Start School here in Mendota. Here are a few supplies that are needed:

Office Supplies:

- Hanging Folders
- Manila Folders
- Pens



Art Supplies:

- Thick Markers (15)
- Fat Crayons (15)
- Glue Sticks
- Construction Paper
- Pom Poms
- Googly Eyes



The government will give Head Start points for every dollar donated and spent for supplies. Please include the receipt for your purchases or a copy. They use those points to get basic supplies from the government.



Session Highlights
September 5

Communion will be served October 1, which is World Communion Sunday.

The Treasurer reported that expenses were significantly higher than income in August, due mostly to the work on the fire alarm system.

Christian Education Team introduced the new Bible Study which will begin September 6 at 7 PM. No books are needed - handouts will be provided. There will be a Season of Peace change jar in fellowship hall made and placed by the Sunday School to raise funds to allow a purchase from the Presbyterian Giving catalog to help those in need.

Worship Team let us know that Brady will not be able to continue as pianist after the end of September. We will miss having him share his gift of music with us! Jessica will post an ad on Facebook to see if we can find someone to start in the rotation of musicians.

Through our Evangelism and Outreach chair, we learned that Head Start needs readers. Speak with Jessica to learn more.

Mission Team let us know that 1) there is a devotion booklet available in conjunction with the Season of Peace program, 2) they received a thank you from PADS for our \$500 donation, 3) a thank you note was also received from the Mendota Area Christian Food Pantry for our \$500 donation, and 4) a thank you note arrived from Abigail's for our support of their baby bottle change campaign, which raised \$182. Thank you all for your generosity, which makes these gifts to vital ministries possible! 5) there will be articles in the newspaper regarding our Kenyan visitors on September 17 and also about October 1, which is World Communion Sunday. 6) There will also be Facebook articles, to get the information to those who do not receive the newspapers. 7) There are daily Peace and Global Witness postings on Facebook, as well.

Fellowship and Parish Life shared the need for more hosts to sign-up for Sunday morning fellowship. Pastor Laurie is planning special fellowship treats for when our Kenyan guests are in worship with us September 17.

Pastor Laurie reported 1) she had fun in the rain with Jessica when they were distributing the kids' goodie bags at Sweet Corn Festival. 2) The memorial service for Bill Arjes was well attended and nice for the family. 3) Surveyed Session regarding what they had learned when they followed through with the Assets/Impacts assignment from last Session meeting. Ideas of note: Reimagine Mendota group is trying to add energy to the community—they need more volunteers to help with events that will bring the entire community together. The sheriff's department would like to get word out to people about how many scams are being perpetrated in the county. He says there is just not enough awareness. Also he would like drivers to know that when an emergency vehicle is approaching, they need to slow down and move to the right side of the road as far as possible. The Lions' Club has money and manpower, just need ideas of what they can do to help the community. Affordable childcare is a real need in Mendota. Seniors need help understanding Medicare coverages and additional transportation is needed for them, as well. Depression amongst seniors is a real issue. Stonecroft residents on the assisted living side of the residence would appreciate visitors and people with whom they can have personal contact and interaction. A suggestion was made that there could be an "adopt a resident" program. The police department said they receive frequent requests for monetary help with paying utility bills, prescription medications, groceries, and gas money. We requested that they let people who call looking for help know about the free Micropantry on our church porch. Nightingale's will accept unused medications in their original containers to distribute to people who can't afford to have their prescriptions filled at the pharmacy. Session will meet October 10 at 7 PM for their regular October 2023 meeting.

Submitted by,
Kim Van Rheenen



2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10a Worship/ World Communion Sunday In-person & Facebook live 11a Fellowship	2	3 1:30p PEO Linder Leder	4 7p Last Bible Study	5 6:30p Webelos	6 Office Closed	7
7 9a Second Sunday Breakfast 10a Worship In-person & Facebook live 11a Fellowship	9 9-Noon Office Hours  Columbus Day	10 7 PM Session	11	12 6:30p Webelos	13 Office Closed	14
15 10a Worship In-person & Facebook live 11a Fellowship	16	17	18	19 6:30p Webelos	20 Office Closed Newsletter Deadline!	21
22 10a Worship In-person & Facebook live 11a Fellowship	23	24	25	26 6:30p Webelos	27 Office Hours 9 to Noon	28
29 10a Worship Rev. Jim Camp In-person & Facebook live 11a Fellowship	30	31				
All Saints						



Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sunday School Teachers

- 01 No Sunday School
- 08 Ann Goy
- 15
- 22
- 29

October Birthdays

- 05 David Setchell
- 10 Bethany Bratney
- 18 William Bratney
- 23 Carol Erwin

Pianists

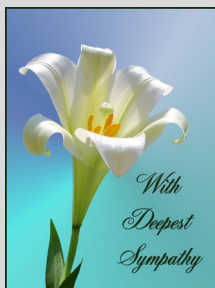
- 01 Peggy Etheridge
- 08 Peggy Etheridge
- 15 Laura Sutton
- 22
- 29

October Anniversaries

- 18 Charles & Nancy Huss (64)

Ushers/Communion

- 01 Kay & Larry Christen & Communion
- 08 Bill & Joni Bratney
- 15 Jaren Menzel, Faye Smith
- 22
- 29 Kevin & Ann Goy



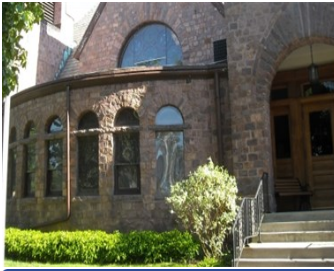
Joy Minder
James Moxness



Continued Prayers

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Angie (Faye Smith) Barb Christopher Bennett Michaels Don Gooden David Erwin Debbie Goffinet (Sandy R) Dorothy Becker Dixie Tonzzi | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ev McNutt Janet Sutton Jason Jim Reilly Kevin Lu Zeinert Mike Boyle Pam Schmidt | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pat Schmidt Sarah Arter Sandy & Donald Schultz Tim Rebholz Tim Sondgeroth Trisha Smith |
|--|--|---|





First Presbyterian Church
 1003 5th Street
 Mendota, IL 61342-1911
 Website: www.fpcmendota.com
(815) 538-5603
Pastor: Laurie Walker (815) 274-3444



Label

Sunday Morning Worship 10 AM: In-Person and www.facebook.com/fpcmendota

**Sunday Fellowship 11 AM,
 Second Sunday Breakfast 9 AM**

↔

Join Zoom Meetings & Gatherings:
[https://us05web.zoom.us/j/994 465 263](https://us05web.zoom.us/j/994465263)
 pwd=zF6RMy
 Or dial in for voice only: 1-312-626-6799
Meeting code: 994 646 5263
Password: zF6RMy



OCTOBER IS
 PASTOR
 APPRECIATION
 MONTH

