

In Touch with FPCR

FPCR ENJOYED A SPECIAL LENTEN SEASON

What a wonderful Lenten season and Easter celebration we had at FPCR. It began February 21 with a service by Mr. **Paul Zachow**, M.A.P.S. It progressed into March with services each Sunday by either Mr. Zachow or **Pastor Cathy Manthei**. We read, listened, and learned more about the life of Jesus and about love, peace, and the wisdom of God. We looked at Paul who tried to help the Corinthians live a more wholesome life, Nicodemus and his difficulties with belief, and Jeremiah and a new covenant bringing joy, love, and hope. On Palm Sunday we learned more about the cheering in Jerusalem. Then, when the cheering stopped, we walked with Jesus during his final days. On Easter Sunday, we rejoiced and celebrated . . . Jesus Christ is Risen!!!

Highlights of the season at FPCR included: installation of officers, communion on two separate occasions, a Palm Sunday procession, and an Easter service complete with a surprise goodie bag delivered to the church's door apparently by the Easter Bunny!

We had uplifting music each week provided by keyboard players **Shira Gui**, **Michael Kieckhaefer**, and **Leah Pokorny**. The large cross was installed at the front of the sanctuary, and beautiful lilies brightened the church. On Easter Sunday **Kate Kujawa** (with a little help from her backup singers, **Melissa Kujawa** and **Elaine Schmidt**) sang *One, Two, Three, Jesus is Alive*.

Weekly passages were read by **Jackson Kujawa**, **Melissa Kujawa**, **Elaine Schmidt**, **Elaine Schoeni**, and **Cheryl Weber**. **Cheryl Weber** lit a candle each week during Lent to remind us that Jesus is the light of the world and that light always overcomes the darkness. On Easter Sunday, the last candle, the Easter candle, burned as a joyful reminder to all that He is Risen!

We built the Road to the Cross with canned and boxed food items to assist those in need at the Slinger Food Pantry and donated to others through One Great Hour of Sharing.

We enjoyed worshipping with our FPCR family and friends and thank everyone whose planning and work made this season meaningful and special.



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Congratulations to former FPCR keyboard player, **Monica Bertucci** (daughter of Karen; sister of Hanna). Many of us were in the virtual audience on April 25 when she performed her impressive senior piano recital at UW-LaCrosse.
- Mark your calendar to attend FPCR on **May 9** and **May 23**.
- The **FPCR website** contains up-to-date announcements. Check it if you have questions about a service or deadline.
www.FirstPresbyofRichfield.com

UPCOMING SERVICES

All are welcome for upcoming 10 a.m. Sunday Services.

**MAY 9
MOTHER'S DAY**

**MAY 23
PENTECOST SUNDAY**

JUNE 6

**JUNE 20
FATHER'S DAY**

Mask, social distancing, and hand sanitizing requested.

Updated information is posted on the website: www.FirstPresbyofRichfield.com

ELDERS AND BOARD OF DEACONS

Elders

Carol Frank

Jim Frank

Debbie Heppe

Melissa Kujawa

Rick Romanski

Clerk of Session

Elaine Schmidt

Deacons

Emma Kujawa

Cathy Romanski

LEAH POKORNY SHARES HER FAITH THROUGH MUSIC



Always happy, organized, and prepared, **Leah Pokorny** is among the accomplished keyboard players here at FPCR. A senior at Germantown High School, Leah has a lot of interests and activities on her "plate," yet she carves out time for our Sunday services. She finds music an "amazing form of worship!"

A musician since kindergarten, she began lessons with the violin. By third grade, however, she chose to concentrate on the piano; and we are fortunate to reap the benefits of her practicing

and studying. Leah also loves to sing and is in the Germantown High School choir. Her interests do not, however, end with music and singing. She enjoys reading and painting. She also works with clay and states that she has recently been attempting to find a way to praise and connect with God through these projects.

A member of the National Honor Society, Spanish Honor Society, and Tri-M Music Honor Society, Leah clearly is an excellent student and a good leader. She plans to study languages (Spanish and Chinese) in college . . . and will **certainly** continue playing the piano.

Leah enjoys the people at FPCR. She enjoys hearing about the church and its activities and loves providing musical leadership for the services. Leah, we love having you. Thank you for sharing your gifts!

HELP SUPPORT YOUNG PEOPLE

The **Pentecost Offering** is a church-wide collection to support young people and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world.

Forty percent of the collected money will be donated locally—to the **Albrecht Free Clinic** in West Bend.



Learn more about this offering at: <https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/pentecost/>

You may donate to this special offering at church services on May 9 and May 23, 2021. Envelopes are provided on the table in the Narthex OR if you wish to mail your donation, please send it to FPCR, PO Box 22, Richfield, WI 53076, by May 20 with the notation *Pentecost* in the memo section of your check.



SERMON JOTTINGS

With our present schedule, it is sometimes difficult to follow the continuum of church lessons and sermons. Here are the summary notes from the April services.

Date: April 4, 2021 (Easter Sunday)

Text: John 20:1-18

Sermon: *He Is Risen!*

- Mary Magdalene was grieving when she arrived at the empty tomb; however, God's love was with her.
- God's love persists through losses, hurts, and difficult times. God's love is always with us.
- God's love gives comfort during loss as well as hope and healing no matter what we face.

- Jesus loved God and had a close relationship with God. This relationship and God's love is always there for us as well.
- Jesus knows us and calls each one of us by name. We belong to God—He called our name. This church has called our names, and we belong to this community of faith.
- Jesus and God call all of our names to be in relationship and community with the divine and with one another. This gives comfort, solace, and peace.
- Jesus has risen in God in new life—not in a resuscitated life—but a new life in the Spirit.
- The resurrection story in John is about God's power to overcome death and loss.
- May the resurrection of Jesus provide us with hope, comfort, new life, and peace. Christ is risen!

Date: April 18, 2021

Text: Luke 24: 36-48

Sermon: *Peace Be With You*

The text from Luke outlines the disciples encounter with the resurrected Jesus. They were afraid, perplexed, and puzzled. Jesus greeted them saying, "Peace be with you." This calmed them. They offered him a piece of fish. The experience transformed them, and they followed Jesus's call to the mission and ministry of God in the world.

- Following Jesus took faith, hope, courage, and trust (in Jesus and God).
- We are called by Jesus to transform from being fearful to hope, resurrection, and renewal for ourselves, the church, and the world.
- Jesus was demonstrating peace and hospitality. Our world needs more peace and hospitality, and so do we as followers of Christ!
- We must study the history of Jesus and understand that the history must be fulfilled. It is about God's action in the world.
- We are called to open our hearts and minds to Jesus' resurrection, and to his love and peace for us.
- We are called to bring peace to others in our lives, the church, and the world.
- It is about God and about love conquering hate and oppression. It is about grace and forgiveness and repentance. It is about new life and renewal with God's love and forgiveness.



For the glory of God and as a gift to the FPCR family, Paul Zachow closed the April 18 service, with an a cappella solo, *I've Got Peace Like a River*. It is posted on the church website if you missed it: www.FirstPresbyofRichfield.com. Thank you Mr. Zachow!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to the following individuals with birthdays in **May**. We wish you many more years of God's blessings.

4 - Val Heidtke

16 - Jason Tutkowski

18 - Jim Frank

19 - Debbie Heppe

19 - Tyler Schmitz

23—Michael Kieckhaefer



PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the following individuals who have health concerns or are awaiting the results of medical tests.

Carol Frank

Jim Frank

Jim Frank's Brother, Glenn

Ron Grunke

Rick Romanski's Aunt Helen

Daryl Schmidt

HELP THE ENVIRONMENT AND FPCR'S BUDGET ...

REQUEST AN ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

Please email **FirstPresbyofRichfield@gmail.com** with your preferred email address so we are able to send you an electronic copy of this newsletter rather than a paper copy.



Thank you for your One Great Hour of Sharing contributions. A check for \$320 was submitted from FPCR.

First Presbyterian Church of Richfield

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FirstPresbyofRichfield.com](https://www.FirstPresbyofRichfield.com)

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A PAGE FROM FPCR'S PHOTO ALBUM

LENT AND EASTER 2021

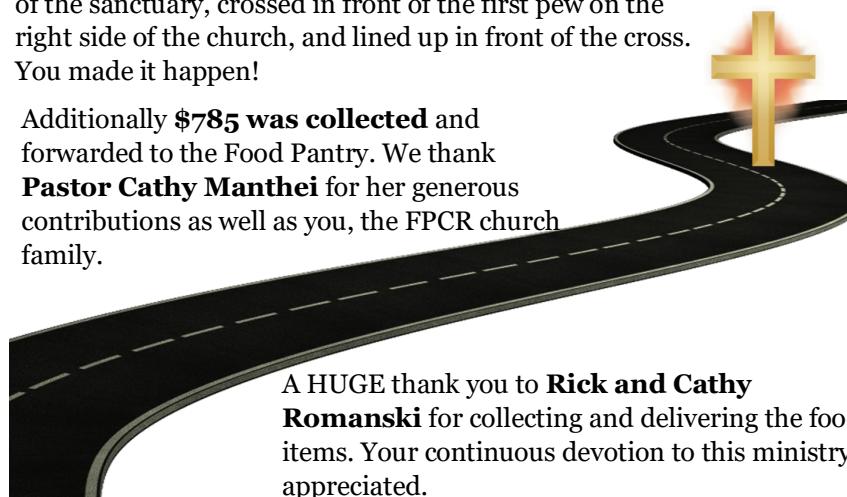
Top Left: Cheryl Weber doing a special reading.
Top Right: Pastor Manthei uses Rev. Koehn's artwork during her sermon.
Bottom Left: The sanctuary on Easter Sunday.
Bottom Right: Elaine Schmidt, Kate Kujawa, and Melissa Kujawa sing.



YOUR GENEROSITY IS BEYOND MEASURE

Wow! **The Road to the Cross** was completed on Easter Sunday. Food items totaling **240 cans and packages** lined the middle aisle of the sanctuary, crossed in front of the first pew on the right side of the church, and lined up in front of the cross. You made it happen!

Additionally **\$785 was collected** and forwarded to the Food Pantry. We thank **Pastor Cathy Manthei** for her generous contributions as well as you, the FPCR church family.



A HUGE thank you to **Rick and Cathy Romanski** for collecting and delivering the food items. Your continuous devotion to this ministry is appreciated.