

In Touch with FPCR

HOW CAN YOU HELP THIS HOLIDAY SEASON?

Giving Tuesday is a new-ish generosity movement which takes place across the globe. The first Tuesday after Thanksgiving is a day when many individuals donate to non-profits and other favorite charities. It is the biggest donation day of the year. FPCR has actually expanded on the idea and observes **Giving December!** The FPCR family is a generous group who donate graciously all year. In December the following giving opportunities are supported:

THE GINGERBREAD HOUSE

November 29 and December 6 (By mail: to arrive at the PO Box no later than Friday, December 4 if possible).

One of the Christmas traditions at FPCR is sponsorship of a Washington County family through the Gingerbread House Program (Youth and Family Project, West Bend, WI). This year's family is from West Bend and includes a mother, two children (one with special needs), and a 15-year-old cat!

THE CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING

December 6 and December 20 (By mail: December 18).

This offering supports our church leaders as well as leadership development for communities of color and provides support for Presbyterian church workers in their time of need. Christmas Joy Offering envelopes will be available at the December 6 and 20 services after which time 100% of the amount will be submitted to Presbytery.

SLINGER FOOD PANTRY

Ongoing (Drop off at December 20 service for next delivery to Pantry.)

During this time of COVID, the Pantry is visited by more people than ever! FPCR's partnership with the Slinger Food Pantry is continuous—leave non-perishables in the Narthex, add a check to the day's collection, or mail to the PO Box at any time. When available, an updated list of Pantry needs is posted on the opening page of the church website (www.FirstPresbyofRichfield.com). Support of the Slinger Food Pantry thrives as a result of: (1) **YOUR** generosity, and (2) **Rick and Cathy Romanski's** time and effort to pick up food from the church and deliver it to the Pantry. Supporting the Food Pantry has truly become an all-congregation effort for our little church!



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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Upcoming scheduled services are December 6 and 20 with Mr. Paul Zachow, M.A.P.S.
- 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.

DECEMBER 6

AND

DECEMBER 20

Mask, social distancing, and hand sanitizing required.

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

ELDERS AND BOARD OF DEACONS

Elders

**Debbie Heppe
Melissa Kujawa
Rick Romanski
Kenneth Schmidt
Jeff Zeller**

Clerk of Session

Elaine Schmidt

Deacons

**Cathy Romanski
Cheryl Weber**

WELCOME TO THE LORD'S TABLE, KATE

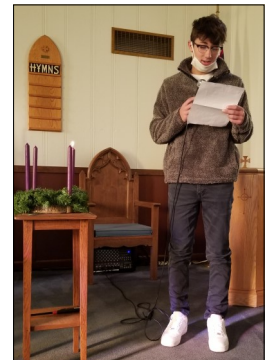
On Sunday, November 29, **Kate Lynn Kujawa** participated in the Lord's Supper for the first time.

Blessings from Pastor Cathy Manthei, a certificate presented by Elaine Schmidt, and family in the front pews of the church helped to make it a special day for Kate.



THANK YOU, JACKSON

November 29 was the first Sunday of Advent. Thank you to **Jackson Kujawa** for helping us learn more about Advent by reading our first passage and lighting the first Advent candle representing hope.



YOU CONTINUE TO AMAZE!

Once again, the October Food Pantry items donated by **YOU** went above and beyond.

The Food Pantry continues to express their thanks to all of you for your generosity and kindness. Your donations of non-perishables as well as cash help many during these difficult times.



SERMON JOTTINGS

As we continue through this time of COVID, and possible quarantine, it is sometimes difficult to follow the continuum of church lessons and sermons. Here are some summary notes from November's services.

Date: **November 8, 2020**, Mr. Paul Zachow, M.A.P.S

Text: Amos 5:18-24

Sermon: Serving God with Justice and Righteousness

Amos was condemning the northern Kingdom of Israel for oppressive treatment of people within the kingdom.

- Amos noted that the powerful and wealthy thrive and the oppressed do not. We are seeing the same thing today.
- This is morally and ethically wrong. God calls us to do better and asks for peace and unity in our country and world where all people are accepted and loved.
- Be kind, do justice, walk humbly with God (Micah 6:8).
- All of us are the hands and feet of God and Christ in our hurting world.

Date: **November 15, 2020**, Mr. Paul Zachow, M.A.P.S

Text: Psalm 34:1-10, 22

Sermon: Giving Thanks

The book of Psalms is a book of instruction from which much can be learned. Psalm 34 is a psalm of thanksgiving and gratitude to God by King David for sparing his life from conflict with King Achish of Gath.

- Today, the same hope and gratitude shown by King David calls us to thank God for our blessings (i.e., our lives, the harvest, food, homes, and God's love). What else are you grateful for?
- We should remember the positive blessings in our lives and be grateful to God for them and for one another.
- It is a good exercise to set aside the negativity of the present world and give thanks to God for our blessings.
- Start by going to God in prayer and honesty asking for help in our lives. God loves us and wants the best for us. Trust in Him. Call on Him in times of joy and in times of need.



Date: **November 29, 2020**, Pastor Cathy Manthei

Text: Mark 13:24-37

- Advent is a season to focus on Christ. Mark's scripture talks about the second coming. He also emphasizes that only the Father knows when this will happen.
- We are called to be a people of action.
- At FPCR the Food Pantry is living out what God wants us to be.
- Gifts have been entrusted to us to use faithfully.
- It matters that we believe. We need to proclaim Him and follow Him. We need to take this seriously.
- It matters how we treat each other and those around us.
- We know that Jesus was here, is here today, and is coming back. It doesn't matter when—it matters what we do with the time.
- Mother Teresa: Christians are not called to be successful and perfect, but to be faithful.
- We should not be afraid, worried or surprised when He returns.
- He is telling us in the scripture: "Keep going, don't quit, I'm right here beside you!"



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

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

10 - Diann Schmidt

11 - Carol Frank

**15 - Karen Schmidt
Kubsad**

18 - June Neumann

22 - Rick Romanski

25 - Brandon Tutkowski

29 - Maxine Henk

IN MEMORIUM:

October 23, 2020

93 years of age

Several remember **Ruth Wolfram** who, along with her husband, Gordon, were a part of FPCR's Sunday services for several years.

Interestingly, after her career as a dental assistant, she became an accomplished artist and an art teacher at MATC. She painted much of the folk art in the European Village at the Milwaukee Public Museum.

We remember Ruth as fun, feisty, and determined!

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.

First Presbyterian Church of Richfield

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WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Last month's issue included some of our favorite college students and an update on where they are now. This month, we move on to some young adults that we all know and love who are working during unusual times! Watch for additional summaries next month.

Emma Kujawa, daughter of Ryan and Melissa Kujawa, enjoys working part-time at a local tanning salon. She spends two days a week with a special needs friend. They explore around town and LOVE to bake and take care of the horses together.

Jennifer Schmidt, daughter of Tony and Kathleen Schmidt, is a Supervisor for the Health Information Department (aka Medical Records) at Advocate Aurora Healthcare. She rotates her time between Aurora Medical Center in Grafton and Aurora Medical Center in Washington County (Hartford). In her free

time, she is attending school virtually, working towards her Bachelor's degree in Health Information Technology. COVID has brought about many changes in her work and school environment, but she truly enjoys helping people.

Katie Schmidt, daughter of Tony and Kathleen Schmidt, graduated from Marian University in Fond du Lac, WI, in 2016 with a Bachelor's degree in Community Health and Human Services. She is currently working at Advocate Aurora Healthcare in the Germantown Surgery Center as a Clinical Office Assistant in the Electrophysiology Department. The COVID pandemic has brought many challenges to the healthcare field. However, working in healthcare is also very rewarding because everyone works together as a team and helps people get well.

FROM ANIKA PAWLEK . . .

Life is crazy! Duke has been doing a great job keeping COVID cases down, and I even have a couple in person classes! I'm living on campus in a double room without a roommate, which is actually really nice.

My core classes, Spanish and Chemistry, are all online, however I am in a FOCUS cluster called the Knowledge in the Service of Society. This is a living-learning community where each of us chose 2 out of the 4 classes offered by this FOCUS to take, and we all live in the same building. I am taking a class on Medical Ethics and End of Life Care, and another on Rethinking Schools Through the Lens of Social Justice. I am so glad I joined this FOCUS program, because I've made some really great friends and learned to think really deeply in these areas.

Our semester will be finished by Thanksgiving; my last exam is November 24th (only 4 weeks away!), and I'll be flying home later that day.

ADVENT: BE AWARE - KEEP ALERT - PAY ATTENTION

