



# In Touch with FPCR

## TO YOU FROM PASTOR CATHY . . .



Hello to my beloved FPCR community,

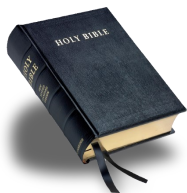
WOW! What a great welcome I received on October 8 as I was commissioned to FPCR!! Lots of laughter, some serious Presbytery business (commissioning me to you) and cake!!! What more can any pastor ask for????!! I stood in awe that evening, looking back in gratitude with all that had been offered up to God that day!!

“Gratitude is not about stuff. Gratitude is the emotional response to the surprise of our very existence, to sensing that inner light and realizing the astonishing sacred, social, and scientific events that brought each one of us into being. We cry out like the psalmist, ‘I am fearfully and wonderfully made!’ (Psalm 139:14).” – Diana Butler Bass, from her book, *Grateful: The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks*.

Dear Ones,  
I had the awesome experience of hearing Rev. Dr. Diana Butler Bass lecture some time ago. OOOOh my stars, I have read several books she has written and have heard her lecture before, but for some reason the subject of GRATITUDE was so alluring to me. Her book, which I quoted above, is wonderful. I ask myself DAILY in my devotion time if I have enough gratitude for all of you; for my incredible experiences in ministry; for the way that God leads and I try to follow; for all the

*(Continued on page 3)*

## FPCR RETURNS TO WEEKLY SERVICES



By now, you know that Pastor Cathy Manthei is our minister. FPCR is thrilled to have her AND to once again open its doors for worship services on a **WEEKLY** basis. Please mark your calendars to include **10 am** FPCR services **each and every Sunday!** Bring your friends and neighbors! It has been awhile, and we promise you an uplifting service.

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### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Mark your calendars to attend FPCR's services on **November 5, 12, 19, and 26**. Bible Study will take place on **Wednesday, November 15, at 6 pm** via Zoom.

The **FPCR website** contains up-to-date announcements. Check it if you have questions about a service or deadline.

[www.FirstPresbyofRichfield.com](http://www.FirstPresbyofRichfield.com)

## UPCOMING SERVICES

All are welcome for 10 am Sunday Services with Pastor Cathy Manthei.

### NOVEMBER 5

Communion Service

Message:

**For All the Saints**

### NOVEMBER 12

Message: **Responsibility**

### NOVEMBER 19

Thanksgiving Service

Message: **Missed**

**Opportunities**

### NOVEMBER 26

Message: **Christ IS King**

*Additional and updated information is posted on the website:*

*www.FirstPresbyofRichfield.com*

## ELDERS AND BOARD OF DEACONS

### Elders

**Carol Frank**

**Jim Frank**

**Debbie Heppe**

**Melissa Kujawa**

**Cheryl Weber**

### Clerk of Session

**Elaine Schmidt**

### Deacons

**Emma Kujawa**

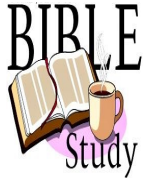
**Cathy Romanski**

### Treasurer

**Alice Schmitz**

## WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15 BIBLE STUDY COMING UP

CHAPTER: 10 TOPIC: CHARACTER TEST



The next Bible Study is **Wednesday, November 15**, at **6 pm** via **Zoom**. A link to this online meeting will be sent on **Monday, November 13**. To join the group for the first time, please email FPCR or contact leader, **Elaine Schmidt**.

The group continues to study the Book of John and will discuss **John 18:28-19:16** on November 15.

The purpose of October's lesson (*Trial & Trust*) was to show Jesus' self-control and confidence in a time of trial. This gives us assurance during our difficult times. We CAN handle these things—with God's help.

The group discussed that the betrayal and arrest of Jesus was preordained and orchestrated. Jesus knew what was going

to happen. He wanted to make it easy for Judas to find Him. The soldiers who found Him certainly didn't expect a confident, powerful "king". What a situation!

Also discussed was that we can do all we want to try to "orchestrate" an event in our lives, but God determines the next steps—the Lord's will be done! So, think before lashing out at Him.

Peter was also discussed as part of this study—he failed Jesus. He wasn't strong enough on his own. We often find ourselves in that situation. We need to continually practice by praying, talking more openly about God/Jesus, and acting as He has taught us to act.

## YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO THE FOOD PANTRY

On October 11, **131** items were delivered from FPCR. That number does not include items personally dropped off by a few members. Thank you!

**Pastor Cathy** visited the Slinger Food Pantry recently. Her report was that the shelves are not very full—the same report FPCR receives each time

**Rick and Cathy**

**Romanski**, our Slinger

Food Pantry Liaisons,

return from dropping off your donations of food, toiletries, and other needed items.

Each and every one of you makes such a difference to the Pantry and its clients from this area! The Pantry is grateful for any/all donations.

If you ever doubt the impact of your donation, ask Rick and Cathy if you could "tag" along when they are making a delivery or stop in on your own any



*Monday between 10 am and noon or Wednesday between 3 and 5 pm.*

Present needs include:

**Chunky Soups**

**Kids' Cereals**

**Toothbrushes and Toothpaste**

**Shampoo for Men/Women**

**Fruit Pie Fillings**

**Cake Mixes**

Please place your donations in the bin found in the Church's narthex. Cash donations are always welcomed and appreciated!

Checks payable to FPCR may be mailed to PO Box 22, Richfield, WI 53076. Include "SFP" in the memo section of your check. To make a cash donation at the church, place the donation in the offering plate using the special envelope found on the narthex table. Again, mark "SFP" in the memo section of your check.



## PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the following individuals who have health concerns:

**Carol and Jim Frank; Carol Frank's son, Jim; Ron Grunke; Ron Grunke's daughter, Shelley; Val Heidtke; Debbie and Mike Heppe's daughter, Erin; Melissa Kujawa's father, Bill; Hartford High School Athlete, Michael Turner; and Daryl Schmidt.**

Please also pray for **those affected by gun violence and the people of Israel, Gaza, and Ukraine.**

## TO YOU FROM PASTOR CATHY

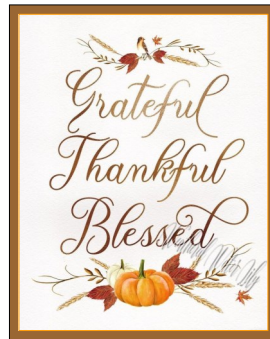
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rich blessings that have been given to me. I ask myself every Sunday if we as a church have thanked God in a real way and if I have led by example in my life? I want to give thanks for a God Who steadfastly refuses to give up on any of us—a God who is forever and always at work for good: forming, reforming, and transforming the world, the church, and every human heart. I want to give thanks for the privilege of being called—along with all my sisters and brothers—to be not passive spectators but active participants amidst the ongoing struggle for peace with justice in our personal relationships, our neighborhoods, and our world. I want to give thanks for the strength God graciously promises to us amidst that struggle.

And I want to give thanks for a church like Richfield which, for all its flaws and foibles, still offers the world a glimpse of people who keep humbly seeking to learn to live together in love. Yes, I have my petitions asking God for many, many things; but I also have my prayers of thanksgiving . . . and not just on the fourth Thursday in November.

Keep praying—be grateful—see you in church!  
Cathy

*Remember to love always and all ways.*



## ANNOUNCING . . . THE SHARING TABLE

The narthex table (across from the Slinger Food Pantry donations) will be designated as a “sharing table.” It presently houses a collection of books and magazines available to anyone interested. Garden goodies have often been shared on the table. It is now being expanded. Have something you no longer want/need that someone else may be able to use? Add it to the Sharing Table!

## NEW HYMNS DURING NOVEMBER

Ready to sing some hymns that are new to the FPCR family? Here are three for November that will certainly catch your “ear”! You may enjoy listening to them on YouTube prior to the services during which they will be sung.

1. *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* - debuted on October 29 and will repeat on November 12.  
Watch it on YouTube by clicking [here](#) or type the following into your web browser: <https://bit.ly/SoGodCanUseMe>
2. *He Is King of Kings* - will be sung on November 26.  
Watch it on YouTube by clicking [here](#) or type the following into your web browser: <https://bit.ly/KofKings>
3. *May the God of Hope* - the final hymn on November 26.  
Watch it on YouTube by clicking [here](#) or type the following into your web browser: <https://bit.ly/TheGodofHope>



## TIME TO FALL BACK

Daylight savings time ends at 2 am on Sunday, November 5, 2023. Turn your clocks **BACK** by one hour before you go to bed on Saturday evening. You will have gained one hour of sleep; forget, and you are guaranteed to be the first person in the pews for FPCR's service on November 5!



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to the following individual with a birthday in **November**. We wish you many years of God's blessings.

**21 - Justin Remillard**



**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY** to the following couples who are celebrating wedding anniversaries in **November**. May the Lord bless you and keep you for many more years to come!

**1 - Rick and Cathy Romanski**

**20 - Ken and Elaine Schmidt**

**Catalina DeSua**, one of our keyboard players, will be performing in this fall's Slinger High School musical, *Shrek*, on:

November 2 at 7 pm,  
November 3 and 4 at 7:30 pm,  
November 5 at 1:00 pm.

Tickets are available at:  
[www.slingerhighschool.ludus.com](http://www.slingerhighschool.ludus.com)  
The performance takes place at Slinger High School, 207 Polk Street, Slinger, WI.

## 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*

- **Rick Romanski** for continued troubleshooting and work to correct issues with the water at the church.
- Everyone who planned, organized, or contributed in any way to the October 8 celebration for Pastor Cathy's commissioning to FPCR. The coffee/cake reception was enjoyed by all.
- **Mark Manthei** for working to get the furnace running on October 22.
- **Keith Clark, Jean Schoeni, and Elaine Schmidt** for updating the church's lawn sign.
- to all who organized and contributed to the after-service celebration for the Manthei's Wedding Anniversary and for Mark Manthei's Birthday on October 29.

### First Presbyterian Church of Richfield

**Location:**  
2281 Highway 164  
Richfield, WI 53076

**Mailing Address:**  
PO Box 22  
Richfield, WI 53076

**Website:**  
[https://www.  
FirstPresbyofRichfield.com](https://www.FirstPresbyofRichfield.com)

**Email:**  
[FirstPresbyofRichfield@gmail.com](mailto:FirstPresbyofRichfield@gmail.com)

## SESSION MEETING SUMMARY

FPCR's session met on Monday, October 30. The agenda/discussion included:

- Copies of the Apostle's Creed have been added to the back of the new hymnals.
- A \$250 donation will be sent to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to support humanitarian work in Palestine/Israel.
- Ideas to increase FPCR's visibility to the community were given and discussed. Watch for "spiffy" feather flags and possibly signs.
- Approval was given to have a maintenance check-up on both of the furnaces.
- Another water check with the Health Department will take place now that the well pump has been replaced.
- Communion dates were set for the first Sunday of each month in 2024.
- Advent and Christmas events were approved including Hanging of the Greens on November 26 and take down of the decorations on January 7.
- Food donations for the Slinger Food Pantry will include daily donations of items gathered in boxes during Advent. (FPCR did such a wonderful job with these gifts last year!)
- Gingerbread House Donations, November 26 and December 3; Joy Offering, December 17 and 24.
- The membership rolls were reviewed.
- The annual Congregational Meeting was set for January 28, 2024.

## PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

Thank You! A total of **\$440** was collected during the Peace and Global Witness Special Offering. FPCR mailed checks for \$110 to the Slinger Food Pantry; \$110 to the Presbytery of Milwaukee; and \$220 to the Presbyterian Church(USA)/Presbyterian Missions to further peacemaking initiatives around the world.



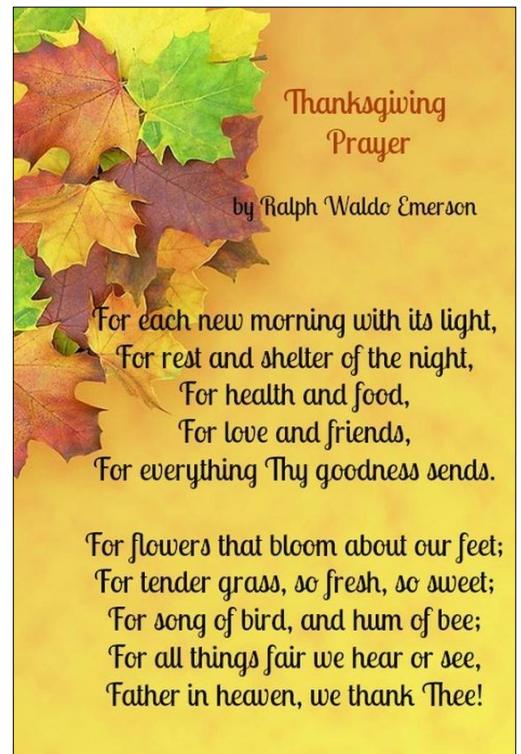
## GINGERBREAD HOUSE

One of FPCR's Christmas traditions is to support the Gingerbread House Holiday Gift Giving Program, an initiative of the Youth and Family Project, a non-profit located in West Bend, WI.

The goal is to make a memorable Christmas for local families. FPCR is generally assigned two area families. Additional information will be announced at upcoming services by **Elaine Schmidt**. Donations for gifts will take place at FPCR on **November 26** and **December 3**.

Please make checks payable to FPCR including a memo stating "GB House" on the check. Special envelopes are found on the narthex table for your donation.

Unable to make a donation during a service but would like to help a local family? Checks may be mailed by November 30 to FPCR, PO Box 22, Richfield, WI 53076. Please be sure to designate "Gingerbread House" in the memo section.



# Happy Thanksgiving