

# In Touch with FPCR

## TO YOU FROM PASTOR CATHY . . .



Beloved friends,

**ADVENT IS HERE!!!** By now you know that I am not a patient person; but even though Advent is about waiting, I LOVE IT.

Advent is a season observed in most Christian denominations as a time of expectant waiting and preparation for both the celebration of the Nativity of Christ at Christmas and the return of Christ at the Second Coming. Advent is the beginning of the liturgical year in Western Christianity.

During Advent, we are going to be promoting “REVERSE ADVENT” IN A BOX—each day place one food item in a box and then bring the box to church on Sunday, December 17. All of the food will be going to the Slinger Food Pantry. (See page 2 for the listing of items being collected during this opportunity.)

We also will be doing a book study using the book **LIGHT OF THE WORLD** by Amy-Jill Levine. If you want to order a book, it is available on AMAZON; but if you need help ordering, let me know!! ZOOM study will begin at 7 pm on Wednesday, December 6. Make sure you sign up so we can get the ZOOM link and the book to you.

I may dislike waiting, but I don't mind waiting with folks I love—like YOU. So as we wait together, let's enjoy the season of love and laughter, of deep reflection and bold dreams, of love, peace, hope and joy!!!

Keep praying—be grateful—see you in church!

Cathy

*Remember to love always and  
all ways.*



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### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Mark your calendars to attend FPCR's services on **December 3, 10, 17, and 24**. Bible Study will take place on **Wednesday, December 6, 13, and 20, at 7 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.*

### DECEMBER 3

Communion Service

Message:

**The Two-Minute Warning**

### DECEMBER 10

Message:

**We Sing with Zechariah**

### DECEMBER 17

Message: **Are You Looking for Christmas?**

### DECEMBER 24

Message: TBD

### DECEMBER 31

Message: A New Year

*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**

## “REVERSE” ADVENT EXPERIENCE BENEFITS SLINGER FOOD PANTRY

Many households count down during Advent to answer the question, “How many more days until Christmas?” Why not reverse the process and try counting up this year? Use the graphic below to add non-perishable food “gifts” to a bag/box daily during Advent. All items will be donated to the Slinger Food Pantry.

How might you participate?

1. Check the graphic below, church website, flyer distributed by Rick and Cathy Romanski, or contact Romanskis at 262-628-3822 for the list.
2. Grab a bag or box and add the grocery item(s) listed daily from December 1 through December 17. Say a short prayer for the recipient as you put the item in the bag/box! By the end of the list, you will have collected the sides for a holiday meal (and more) to be donated to a Slinger Food Pantry individual/family.
3. On December 17, bring your bag or box to FPCR. The Romanskis will deliver it to the Food Pantry prior to Christmas.

If you are looking for an alternative to bagging or boxing the listed items, monetary donations are always welcome. Pick up a Slinger Food Pantry envelope in the Narthex or mail a check with FPCR on the memo line to PO Box 22, Richfield, WI 53076.

### Advent Calendar

For Slinger Food Pantry

**Add Item(s) to a Box or Bag Each Day.  
Bring to FPCR on Sunday, December 17.**

December 1 – Box of <b>Cereal</b>	December 10 – Box of <b>Crackers</b>
December 2 – <b>Peanut Butter</b>	December 11 – Can <b>Sweet Potatoes</b> and Can <b>Carrots</b>
December 3 – <b>Stuffing Mix</b> and Boxed <b>Potatoes</b>	December 12 – <b>Cranberry Sauce</b>
December 4 – Can <b>Mixed Vegetables</b>	December 13 – Can <b>Beans</b> (black, kidney, etc.) and Can <b>Corn</b>
December 5 – <b>Macaroni and Cheese</b>	December 14 – <b>Chicken Noodle Soup</b>
December 6 – Can <b>Fruit</b> and <b>Applesauce</b>	December 15 – <b>Tomato Soup</b>
December 7 – Can <b>Tomatoes</b> and Can <b>Green Beans</b>	December 16 – Package/Box <b>Oatmeal</b>
December 8 – Can <b>Tuna</b> and Package/Bag of <b>Rice</b>	December 17 – Package of <b>Pasta</b> and Jar of <b>Spaghetti Sauce</b>
December 9 – <b>Dessert Mix</b>	

## JOY OFFERING DECEMBER 17 AND 24

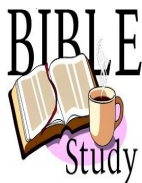


The Christmas Joy Offering is the final special offering of the year. The offering provides assistance to current and retired church workers and their families in their time of need and develops future leaders at Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color.

More information is available at <https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/christmas-joy>. The Christmas Joy Offering will take place on December 17 and December 24 at FPCR. Special envelopes may be found on the narthex table, or you may send your check (Joy Offering on the memo line) to FPCR, PO Box 22, Richfield, WI 53076, by December 20.

**Advent increases our hope . . .  
A hope which does not disappoint!**

## OPPORTUNITY FOR ADVENT BIBLE STUDY



Interested in an Advent Bible Study? Pastor Cathy Manthei and the group will be doing a three-week study using the book, "Light of the World" by Amy-Jill Levine as a resource. The study will take place on December 6, 13, and 20 at 7 pm via Zoom.

Please email or call Pastor Cathy to add your name to the group AND for more information about obtaining the book. Amazon works well!

## FPCR READY FOR ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS



You will not want to miss FPCR all "dressed up" for Advent and Christmas! After the service on Sunday, November 26, the decorations were taken out of storage as the congregation pitched in to decorate trees, doorways, windows, and windowsills! The FPCR family had a lot of fun together. Wait until you see it! The "work" was followed by fellowship and pizza.

Please join us for worship during Advent (10 am on December 3, 10, 17, and 24). We would love to see you!

**Debbie Heppe** and **Melissa Kujawa** are planning the annual spaghetti dinner to be held on Sunday, December 17, following the service. Please plan to join the FPCR family.



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

- 10 - Diann Schmidt**
- 11 - Carol Frank**
- 15 - Karen Schmidt Kubsad**
- 18 - June Neumann**
- 22 - Rick Romanski**
- 25 - Brandon Tutkowski**

## MEMORIAL GIFT



Thank you to **Deanna Wojcieszak and family** for the donation of a "feather flag" in memory of **Eric Wojcieszak**, loving husband and father.

What a wonderful way to remember Eric as we arrive at the church. Additionally, the flag announces, "We're Open," to passersby. The FPCR family LOVES it!

**Christmas**  
*31 Day Scripture Guide*

To help you keep the focus of this season, spend the first 10 minutes of each day with God's Word. Read the Scripture on the list, then spend a few minutes to reflect on it.

Day 1-Isaiah 7:14-17	Day 21-Luke 1:51-56
Day 2-Isaiah 9:6-7	Day 22-Luke 2:4-7
Day 3-Isaiah 11:1-5	Day 23-Luke 2:8-12
Day 4-Isaiah 11:6-10	Day 24-Luke 2:13-16
Day 5-Isaiah 40:1-5	Day 25-Luke 2:17-20
Day 6-Isaiah 52:7-10	Day 26-Galatians 4:4-7
Day 7-Jeremiah 33:14-16	Day 27-Philippians 2:5-8
Day 8-Psalm 72:1-7	Day 28-Philippians 2:9-11
Day 9-Psalm 72:8-14	Day 29-James 1:6-18
Day 10-Psalm 72:15-20	Day 30-Titus 3:3-7
Day 11-Psalm 95:1-7	Day 31-Choose your own verse
Day 12-Malachi 3:1-3	
Day 13-Matthew 1:18-20	
Day 14-Matthew 1:21-25	
Day 15-Matthew 2:1-6	
Day 16-Matthew 2:7-12	
Day 17-Luke 1:26-29	
Day 18-Luke 1:30-34	
Day 19-Luke 1:35-38	
Day 20-Luke 1:46-50	

**Jesus is the Reason for the Season!**

## UPDATE YOUR DIRECTORY

If you haven't already done so, please make a note in your FPCR directory with **Pastor Cathy Manthei's** contact information.

**Pastor Cathy Manthei**  
**Phone: 262-949-6750**  
**Email: mantheicj@gmail.com**

Pastor Cathy will be available to you whenever you have a pastoral care concern.

## 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; Slinger High School Student/Athlete, Jack Gerlach, and Daryl Schmidt.**

Please also remember **Jim and Carol Frank** on the loss of Jim's brother who died recently.

Anyone have a good used car for sale? **Lydia Wojcieszak** is looking for one.



If you are able to help, contact **Deanna Wojcieszak**. Her email and phone number may be found in the FPCR directory.

## 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

- **Everyone** who planned, organized, or contributed in any way to the November 26 "Hanging of the Greens" at FPCR.
- **Rick Romanski** for continued troubleshooting and work to correct issues with the water at the church.
- **Cheryl Weber** for inserting a copy of the Apostle's Creed into the back of the new hymnals.
- **Mark Manthei** for coffee and donuts after the service on November 19.
- **Elaine Schmidt** for seeing that FPCR has heat in the Sanctuary! Thank you for overseeing the latest repair of the furnace.

### 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)

## CATALINA DESUA—ACADEMIC STUDENT OF THE MONTH



One of FPCR's keyboard players, **Catalina DeSua**, was named the Slinger Rotary's November Academic Student of the Month because of her success in the classroom. She has maintained a 4.0 grade point average and excelled in numerous AP (Advanced Placement) classes.

"She is also involved as an officer of Student Council and Interact Club, as well as a member of forensics, National Honor Society, the fall musical, and choir," said a news release from Slinger High School. "Outside of school, she volunteers at Samaritan Health Center in West Bend, works at St. Vincent De Paul, and plays piano." We are grateful that she also adds FPCR to that list as one of our excellent keyboard players!

After graduation, Catalina plans to pursue a computer science degree at either UW-Madison or the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Congratulations Catalina.

## CONGRATULATIONS CLAIRE!

How wonderful to hear that **Claire Gui** won the American Protege International Music Talent Competition. As a first place winner she is invited to sing a solo at New York's Carnegie Hall next June. To make the win even more exciting, **Shira Gui** will accompany her sister on the piano at Carnegie Hall.

In Shira's email to FPCR, she noted, "It's great that Claire has had a community to share her music with when she first

started singing at the church. (It made her) more comfortable with performing."

The competition is designed for young musicians, actors and singers on the path to a successful career.

Congratulations to both Claire and Shira!



## GINGERBREAD HOUSE GIFTS

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.

