



First Presbyterian Church of Richfield
 A growing, giving family, relevant to the community
 where all are welcome to come and worship God.

March 2025
 Volume 8, Issue 3



In Touch with FPCR



March 2025

“Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith?” – Matthew 6



In March as the days finally grow longer and all the flowers start to bloom, hope can spring up in us that perhaps we too will blossom. The work of our transition team is beginning and we still have a ways to go.

Lent encourages introspection and observation. I love the passage from the Gospel of Matthew about worry and how it reminds me to put things in perspective. I often feel there are things I can control and things I can't. Mostly though, I can't. And as Lent and Good Friday remind us, it's best to turn toward God and remember to put our trust in God's will rather than our mortal wisdom.

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Remember to love always and all ways.

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

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 10 am Sunday Services with Pastor Cathy Manthei.

MARCH 2

Communion Service
Message: **Relationships**

MARCH 9

Message: **Never the Same**
Ordination of Elder
Cathy Romanski

MARCH 16

Message: **Martha's Story**

MARCH 23

Message: **The Lost**

MARCH 31

NO SERVICE

This is a Fifth Sunday.

*Additional and updated information is posted on the website:
www.FirstPresbyofRichfield.com*

ELDERS AND BOARD OF DEACONS

Elders

Debbie Heppe
Jackson Kujawa
Melissa Kujawa
Ken Schmidt
Cheryl Weber

Clerk of Session

Elaine Schmidt

Deacons

Cathy Romanski
Rick Romanski

EAGLES WIN: 79-53

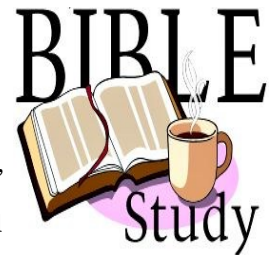
Maybe you don't remember Super Bowl LIX with quite that much scoring. In reality, the Eagles DID win; but the score was 40-22. So, why 79-53? That was the score of the FPCR "Soup"er Bowl. By noon on Sunday, February 9, the FPCR vote was in. There was a total of **132** cans of soup: 79 placed in the box for the Philadelphia Eagles and 53 for the Kansas City Chiefs. An Eagles win. This suggests that soup cans can predict the game's outcome just as well as Las Vegas odds or ESPN analysts!



The bottom line, however, is that FPCR was able to donate 132 cans of soup to the Slinger Food Pantry—their number one need at this time of year. Thank you for participating and for donating generously.

NEXT STUDY TOPIC: WORKING FOR OUR FATHER

You probably learned to work for your father/mother at some time during your youth. Maybe it was in the workshop fixing a car or completing chores in the barn or dusting the furniture or preparing the evening meal. No matter the task, you learned about motivation and responsibility and reward (not necessarily monetary) in working hard and doing a good job. Learn and discuss more about abilities, resources, responsibilities, and rewards of working for our Heavenly Father on **Wednesday, March 19, at 6 pm**. Lesson 7 in the study book is based on Matthew 25:14-30.



In February, the group discussed Lesson 6, Welcome to the Party! In Luke 14:7-24 we learned a lot about Jesus's perspective of who will/should be part of the "party" (often referred to as "the feast") in Heaven. The group discussed the fact that the "first shall be the last" and how Jesus loved all people, but especially had an affinity for the humble, poor, crippled, lame, blind, etc. We should all want to be at the back of the line or in the back of the room! Being first in this case isn't the best option. We should work on being humble and happy in the back. We should strive to invite people from all walks of life, races, income levels, etc., to God's banquet. These divisions do not exist in heaven. We should work to minimize these divisions here on earth.

Think about joining the group to discuss more about our resources in light of our responsibilities in the future as we work for our Father. Please contact Elaine Schmidt to join the group.

A Golden Gem to Think About:
Our greatest glory is not in never falling but in rising every time we fall—Confucius

NOISY BUCKET COLLECTION SUNDAY, MARCH 2

Benefits Presbyterian Missions for recent U.S. hurricane and fire disasters.

Save your change to make some noise!

Currency and checks also accepted!
Checks payable to FPCR with PMA noted in the memo section or use the special envelope available next to the bulletins on Sunday, March 2.



Ash Wednesday, which marks the beginning of Lent, is March 5, 2025.

SLINGER FOOD PANTRY'S GREATEST NEEDS
Cereal
Chunky Soup

VISION COMMITTEE WORK CONTINUES

The Vision work continues. On February 2, 2025, the standing committees began discussions on increasing membership, community outreach, finance, and building repairs/enhancements. They created action plans to break down tasks. Since then, several groups have brainstormed, started tasks, and researched further.



Currently, the groups are focusing on:

- **Increasing Membership and Retaining Current Membership:** attracting new people from the area to worship with us and working to keep those already worshipping at FPCR.
- **Community Outreach:** doing kind acts and becoming more visible as a church.
- **Finance:** exploring fundraising methods, including grants.
- **Building and Grounds:** addressing a list of issues, starting with ensuring basement exit signs are always lit (Each fire inspection FPCR has issues with the fact that those lights are not on 24/7).

Your thoughts and ideas are always welcome to help further this work. Please see **Keith Clark** for more information, with questions, or to offer input.

FPCR'S VISION STATEMENT

A growing, giving family, relevant to the community where all are welcome to come and worship God.

ELDER-DEACON TRAINING



Pictures courtesy of Elaine Schoeni



Cathy Romanski, incoming Elder/Clerk of Session, and **Jean Schoeni**, incoming Deacon, attended a training session with **Pastor Cathy** on February 23. Both enjoyed learning more about “job” expectations and their role in serving our church from Pastor Cathy. An ordination service will be held in the near future.



SET YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD

Before you climb into bed on **Saturday, March 8**, set your clock *ahead* an hour. You wouldn’t want to miss the church service on Sunday, March 9!

Daylight savings time will be observed from March 9 until November 2 this year.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the following individuals with birthdays in **March**. We wish you many years of God’s blessings.

25 - Jayden Schmidt

26 - Melissa Kujawa

31 - Jackson Kujawa

31 - Leslie Schmidt

WATCH THE 2024 FPCR YEAR IN REVIEW VIDEO

Click here:

bit.ly/2024atFPCR

(8 minutes long—includes audio reading of the text on the slides.)

OR

Click here:

bit.ly/2024atFPCRQuiet

(approximately 4 minutes long—no audio.)

Or, find the links on the [FPCR website](https://www.fpcr.org).

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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COULD YOU USE A CHUCKLE?



Thank you to Jean Zeller for the “gem” to the left of this article!

Some of you may remember the Green Sheet as part of the *Milwaukee Journal* daily newspaper. There was always a page devoted to cartoons. From Jean’s clipping of this cartoon, it was clearly clipped from the Green Sheet!



The Green Sheet began printing comics in the 1930’s with *Our Boarding House*. By WWII, they included *Li'l Abner* and *Dixie Dugan*. In the 40s and 50s you could chuckle at *Mr. Tweedy* and *There Oughta' Be a Law*. In the 60’s a popular strip was *Family Circus*. Eventually we laughed at *Peanuts* and waited to see what would happen in *Mary Worth*.

Today, you can still find comics in the *Milwaukee Journal Sentinel*. You might find some of your favorites from a different decade. They now

sprinkle “oldies” with newer comics. Have you enjoyed *Pearls Before Swine*? That comic is considered newer but actually has been running for the past 20 years? New or old, the bottom line is that you get a chuckle that might even stay with you for the day.

WE ARE WHERE WE ARE MEANT TO BE . . .

(Continued from page 1)

As a congregation of people who have been brought together at this time and this place by the movement of God’s spirit in our lives, it behooves us to take this season of Lent and this burgeoning of spring to pause, breathe, and settle. Here are some ideas to get you started:

- Sit in the warm sun and be comforted. As you do, remember Jesus’ time in the desert. Pray for stamina for yourself and this congregation.
- Get up close to a budding tree where you can see the brightness of the new life. Pray for the growth you are feeling as a person, and that we are feeling as a congregation.
- Walk near a body of water and listen to its movement. Pray that your spirit would be renewed for life and endurance.
- Help someone accomplish something that has no benefit for you. Pray, and remember how much God has done for you.

We are exactly where we are meant to be in this moment, and God is with us.

Blessed Lent!

Cathy