

March 2026

# In Touch with FPCR

First Presbyterian Church of Richfield

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



Volume 9, Issue 3

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PLUS MORE!

## UPCOMING SERVICES

**March 1 - 10 am**

Communion  
Coffee-Snacks-Chats  
Social Hour

**March 8 - 10 am**

Vision Committee Meets

**March 15 - 10 am**

One Great Hour of Sharing

**March 22 - 10 am**

One Great Hour of Sharing  
Vision Committee Meets

**March 29 - 10 am**

Palm Sunday

## The Annual Congregational Meeting

FPCR held its annual congregational meeting following worship on February 1 in the Fellowship Hall, in accordance with corporate requirements. The meeting was called to order with prayer by **Moderator David Perkins**.

The minutes from the previous annual meeting were approved.

The following reports were presented:

- *Statistical Report:* Membership totaled 30 at the end of 2025.
- *Benevolence Report:* Contributions totaling \$6,377.64 were distributed to local, regional, national, and worldwide organizations, including Slinger Food Pantry, Lakeshore Community Health Care, Gingerbread House, Milwaukee Presbytery, Synod of Lakes and Prairies, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Church (USA), One Great Hour of Sharing, and Presbyterian Missions.
- *Nominating Committee Report:* Elder Cheryl Weber completed her current term and was elected to a one-year term. Allen Schoeni was elected to a three-year term as elder beginning in 2026, replacing Debbie Heppe. Terms begin following the installation of officers.
- *Deacons' Report:* Thirty-eight services were held in 2025, including 13 led by Pastor Cathy Manthei and 25 by FPCR elders and pulpit supply. Average weekly attendance was 18. Fellowship and ministry activities included five luncheons, one Picnic with the Pastor, five Bible study sessions, 46 cards sent throughout the year, and 27 Christmas cards mailed.
- *Auditor's Report:* FPCR's financial records are currently being audited by KR Accounting, Slinger, Wisconsin. Treasurer Alice Schmitz will report findings to the session upon completion.
- *Treasurer's Report:* The church ended 2025 with a net loss of \$741.32. Financial summaries and the 2026 budget, which also reflects a projected net loss, were distributed. Members seeking additional details were advised to contact the treasurer.

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**Present Requests:**

- Cereal**
- Juice**
- Coffee**
- Peanut Butter**
- Jelly**
- Breakfast Bars**
- Hamburger Helper** (or similar)

**You Did It - 138 Cans of Soup**

You did it! The FPCR family collected **more cans of soup** than last year! You may remember that last year 132 cans of soup were donated to the Slinger Food Pantry. This year FPCR collected **138 cans--six more cans** with a few less people attending Sunday services! That number was added to the national database where, according to Google, over 1 million cans of soup were donated during this one giving event.



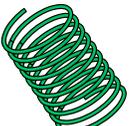
Thank you for your support of this "soup-raiser" and thank you for the **60 non-perishable products** that the Romanskis were able to deliver in addition to the soup. The Slinger Food Pantry thanks each of you!

**Thank You Debbie Hepe for cleaning the building--which is now sparkling!**

**Thank You Mike Hepe for providing a new stand for the cross and repairing the coat rack!**

**Join the FPCR Family**  
for  
Coffee, Snacks, and Chats  
on  
**March 1, 2026**  
following the service.

**One Great Hour  
of Sharing**  
  
OGHS will be observed on  
March 15 and 22.  
*Help provide safety, sustenance, and hope  
to people around the world!*  
*Watch for the special collection envelopes  
when you pick up your bulletin.*

**Before your head hits the  
pillow on March 7, spring  
forward.**  
  
You wouldn't  
want to miss the  
March 8 service  
at FPCR.

**ELDERS AND  
BOARD OF  
DEACONS**

**Elders**

Debbie Hepe  
Cathy Romanski  
Cheryl Weber

**Clerk of Session**

Cathy Romanski

**Deacons**

Rick Romanski  
Jean Schoeni

**Clerk of Session Emeritus**

Elaine Schmidt

Note: Term of Office for the Elders  
and Deacons begins after the  
Annual Meeting and Installation  
of Officers.

**Annual Meeting**

*Continued from page 1*

- *Vision Committee Report:* While 2025 presented challenges, significant progress was made. Completed projects included cemetery and lawn improvements, cistern maintenance, shed repairs, updated fire extinguishers, and upgraded smoke/CO<sub>2</sub> alarms and exit lighting. Restoration of the Richard Schmidt Memorial window is underway and expected to be completed in the spring. Subcommittees will meet biweekly to develop and track action plans.

Electronic needs of the church were discussed. **Keith Clark** will distribute a survey to inform future decisions.

A motion to waive the reading of minutes until the next annual meeting was approved. The meeting concluded with prayer by Moderator Perkins and was adjourned.

**You are Younger Than You Think**

As you know, most of the cells in your body are constantly being renewed. Old cells die and are replaced by new ones, meaning much of your biological makeup is far younger than your chronological age. Aging still occurs because some cells don't regenerate, renewal slows in certain tissues, and even new cells can experience wear and tear over time. Nonetheless, on average, the cells in an adult human body are estimated to be only 7 to 10 years old – so even in middle age, much of your body is biologically closer to that of a child than to that of an elderly adult.

From [www.interestingfacts.com](http://www.interestingfacts.com)

## Per Capita (a.k.a. Apportionment Dues)

First Presbyterian Church—Richfield is part of the Presbyterian Church (USA). As such, FPCR shares in varied programs and functions of the collective church. Part of that means helping to support these programs and functions which are possible in part through the annual collection of per capita or apportionment dues.

To paraphrase a February 2026 communication from Rev. Dr. Christian Boyd, Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Milwaukee who recently addressed Per Capita/ Apportionment Dues:

*We are connected—one of many congregations who gather as part of the larger PC(USA) body. Per Capita is one expression of that unified connection that includes all congregations no matter the location. It is a way for all to participate equally, responsibly, and interdependently in sharing costs of coordination, mission, and of performing ecclesiastical, legislative, and judicial functions that are PC(USA).*

As for FPCR's "share", we have never taken this responsibility lightly. FPCR has an excellent track record for submitting our payment annually. In 2026, that "share" was submitted on February 15 and totaled \$1,389.44 for 32 members at \$43.42 each (membership at the end of 2024). The FPCR family is not sent a "bill" or asked to donate to a special collection, nor do we make announcements about the payment. It is simply a line item on each year's budget. A payment is sent from the General Fund (your Sunday donations).

Thank you for your continued presence at FPCR and for supporting this church each Sunday throughout the year. The FPCR Church Family is a phenomenal group!

If you wish to read Dr. Boyd's explanation in total, please contact Alice Schmitz.

*The Lord will keep your going out  
and your coming in  
from this time forth and  
for evermore.*

*Psalm 121:8*

**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**



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## Visioning Committee Update

### Next Meeting - March 8

At the February 22 Visioning Committee meeting, members discussed the website, action plans, and the results of a recent technology survey. Website discussions focused on how the concept of "visioning" should be presented, along with formatting, timelines, and improved communication about meetings.

Chairperson **Keith Clark** was asked to develop a standardized template for completed action plans to ensure consistent reporting to the full committee and the congregation. The template will be presented at the March 8 meeting.

The committee also reviewed the technology surveys completed by FPCR attendees. Additional information and discussion will be shared at a later date.

The next biweekly meeting will be held after the service on Sunday, March 8 followed by March 22.



## FPCR Directories Available

Copies of the 2026 **FPCR Directory** will be available at the church on March 15. If you are unable to attend on that date, your copy will be waiting for you on the "sharing table" in the narthex for pick-up on a date convenient for you. Electronic copies will be emailed to those unable to attend the church due to distance.

Electronic copies of the document are available to anyone wishing one. Simply contact **Alice Schmitz**.

## FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF RICHFIELD

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Richfield, WI 53076

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

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



## REQUEST AN ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER

Please email  
[FirstPresbyofRichfield  
@gmail.com](mailto:FirstPresbyofRichfield@gmail.com)

An electronic copy of this  
newsletter is available  
if you would prefer.  
*Help the environment and  
FPCR's budget.*

## Joyce Celebrates 95 Years Young



Look at the lovely lady on the left! **Joyce Koehn**, one of FPCR's favorite people celebrated her 95th birthday on February 4. She is doing great, loves life each day, and enjoys visits from family and friends. Joyce sends her love to each of you! She keeps up-to-date on the "happenings" at FPCR through your visits, cards, and phone calls along with daughter Cheryl Terman who shares FPCR's newsletter with her.

Cheryl sent this picture of Joyce shown with the flowers from FPCR. Thank you for sharing this very nice picture!

## Kate Kujawa Walks the Red Carpet

On Friday, February 13, **Kate** and friends attended the *Night to Shine* prom at Christ Global Methodist Church in Milwaukee. Along with escort and Mom, **Melissa Kujawa**, she danced, dined, and enjoyed a lovely evening.

The prom is sponsored by the Tim Tebow Foundation at churches/locations throughout the country.



## Next Bible Study is March 11



The FPCR Bible Study group met on February 11 to discuss the lesson titled, "Beyond Comparison" which covered Isaiah 40:12-31. The lesson began by asking, "To what can we compare God?" The group answer was, "NO comparison." He is incomparable! Yet, we want things our way. We want everything right now. We forget his time and our time are different. He will take care of us.

Much of the discussion centered around: How might we change our ways admitting that God knows and understands more than we do? A few solutions: not wasting time worrying--ask him; things not going right--ask him; not sure something is going to get done--ask him.

The closing portion of the lesson centered on why God challenges us to compare him to princes, rulers, nations, etc. The group determined that he wants us to understand he is above all--all powerful. What do we need to do? Ask, trust, and be patient! Give everything to God!

The next lesson? *God is Love*, I John 4:7-5:5. The introductory question? Why are we so infatuated with love? Join the group on March 11, 6 pm, for this Zoom discussion. Simply contact **Elaine Schmidt** if you are interested in participating.