

February 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 2

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PLUS MORE!

## UPCOMING SERVICES

**February 1 - 10 am**

Communion  
Soup Collection  
Annual Meeting

**February 8 - 10 am**

Soup Collection

**February 15 - 10 am**

**February 22 - 10 am**

## Annual Congregational Meeting

### **Plan to attend on Sunday, February 1**

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on February 1 after the service. The group will move to the Fellowship Hall for a light lunch followed by the business meeting.

David Perkins will moderate the meeting. Minutes from last year will be reviewed. There is a financial report, a deacon's report, nominations, and voting for officers to fill the next term. Old and new business will be discussed. All members of the FPCR congregation are encouraged to be at the meeting to discuss and vote on business important to FPCR.

**If you wish to include an agenda item, please contact Cathy Romanski, Clerk of Session, prior to the meeting.**

### **Visioning Committee Meeting**

On January 4, the Visioning Committee met and reviewed 2025 progress and discussed plans for 2026. An update will be provided at the Annual Meeting.

In a nutshell, the Building/Grounds/Finance Committee is happy with the clean-up project from last fall. The property is much improved. The group will be keeping an eye on the spring moisture and the need for watering the seed planted in October.

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### Updates to Building Operations

The fire extinguishers have been inspected and **Rick Romanski** installed CO2 detectors requested by the fire department. Inspections passed!

## Who Will Win the Super Bowl?

You may remember “voting” last year by placing cans of soup in boxes at the front of the church. You may also remember that the “soup can voting” correctly predicted that the Philadelphia Eagles would win! A total of 132 cans of soup were donated (79 of those for the Eagles).

This year, FPCR will again observe **Soup-er Bowl Sunday**, but it will not be a competition between teams--let's leave that to those who study the odds! Instead, last year's performance will be this year's benchmark. *Can more than 132 cans of soup be collected this year? Let's see!*

A table will be placed at the front of the church for the soup cans. Plan to bring your donation(s) on February 1 or February 8. As one of the most-needed items for the Pantry, **Rick and Cathy Romanski** will see that the soup is delivered to the Slinger Food Pantry to assist those needing nutrition in the form of hot soup!

## ELDERS AND BOARD OF DEACONS

### Elders

Debbie Hepp  
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.

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### Join the FPCR Family

for  
Coffee, Snacks, and Chats  
on  
**March 1, 2026**  
following the service  
(Next Coffee Hour)

### Thank you

to all the “worker bees” who helped take down the Christmas decorations.  
**Much appreciated!**

## Next Bible Study is February 11



The FPCR group met on January 14 to discuss the Spirit and the Son. Everyone found this lesson a bit more difficult—there was “a lot to grasp!”

Our leader framed it as: “The Holy Spirit is your helper—just ask for assistance. Never neglect this glorious source of strength within you. We can't do it by ourselves; we need the Holy Spirit within us”. Another group member said, “Even though he's not here, he's here!” Some of it goes back to the concept of, “we believe even though we cannot see!”

This lesson will be followed by the **February 11, 6 pm**, Zoom lesson titled, *Beyond Comparison* (Lesson 5). It covers Isaiah 40:12-31 and will challenge us to enlarge our small thoughts about God with the truth of his greatness, and to learn to wait on him for the strength we need.

Thinking about joining the group? Contact **Elaine Schmidt**.

**For I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord,  
plans for welfare and not for evil,  
to give you a future and a hope.**

*Jeremiah 29:11*

## “Special” Offering Structure Changed

“Special Offerings are the single, largest way Presbyterians join together to make a lasting impact in the world. Let’s be the Church, together!” This is the goal of Special Offerings as communicated by the national organization, PC(USA).

With that in mind, this article will update you on some changes made after PC(USA) researched the program. The largest change, resulting from the General Assembly meeting in 2024, is that there will now be three instead of four special offerings. Also added was a grant program for local mission needs. The grant program is still being clarified.

Since the two offerings with the smallest “income” and participation were the Peace/Global Witness and the Pentecost offerings, they were combined to now become the World Communion Offering. The hope is that the grant program will be an “equitable” way to take up the “church share” and will be impactful on local mission goals. The following offerings are now being supported by PC(USA):

1. One Great Hour of Sharing – approved for FPCR by the session for March 22 and 29, 2026. The session also decided to give everyone a break from creativity--no fish banks for 2026.
2. World Communion Offering (combination of Pentecost Offering and Peace/Global Witness Offering). The time frame is between September 6 and October 4. The grant program is part of this special offering. A final decision on this offering is pending session approval.
3. Christmas Joy Offering – between November 29 and December 19. Again, the final decision on this offering is pending at FPCR.

In addition to these three offerings, FPCR supports Presbyterian Mission with an annual Mission Pledge (ours is \$450 for 2026). This gift, funded by general offerings at FPCR, is split between the local Presbytery (65%); Synod (15%); and General Assembly (20%).

If you have questions, **Alice Schmitz**, Treasurer, will be happy to answer them or find an answer.

**Happy Birthday** to the following individuals with birthdays in **February**. We wish you many years of God’s blessings.

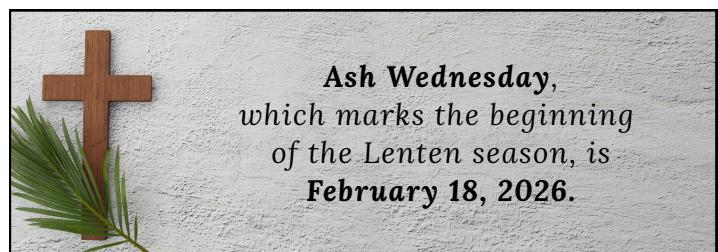
**4 - Joyce Koehn**  
**11 - Brenda Schmidt**  
**20 - Daryl Schmidt**  
**23 - Mike Heppe**



**Happy Anniversary**  
**Daryl and Brenda**  
**Schmidt**

**February 12**

May the Lord bless and keep you for many years to come!



**Directory Change?**

Email  
FirstPresbyofRichfield@gmail.com  
or communicate your change  
to Alice Schmitz  
by **February 10**.  
Attending the Annual Meeting?  
You will be asked to verify your contact information.

*The Lord is my light and my salvation;  
whom shall I fear?  
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;  
of whom shall I be afraid?*

*Psalm 27:1*

# FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF RICHFIELD

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newsletter is available  
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Help the environment and  
FPCR's budget.

## January Fun at FPCR



Thank you to **Debbie Heppe** and **Melissa Kujawa** for providing the spaghetti luncheon on January 4. From delicious food to pretty tables to a lot of fun socializing, the FPCR family marked the end of the holiday season.

Thank you, too, to those who provided additional dishes as well as dessert treats--yum!

Top Row-Left: **Elaine Schmidt** updated the group with the announcements. Right: **Rev. Dottie Halverson** administered communion. Second Row-Left: **Allen Schoeni** serves communion. Right-**Cheryl Weber, Keith Clark, and Jean Schoeni**. Third Row: **Ken Schmidt, Allen Schoeni, Elaine Schoeni, and Elaine Schmidt** enjoy lunch as do **Eric Zhang and his father** along with **Rev. Dottie Halverson**. Bottom Row: **Jean Zeller, Leslie Schmidt, and Cathy Romanski** spend the time "catching up" with each other.

## Visioning Committee - (from page 1)

They also noted that the storage shed roof was corrected, talked about the "new" crack in the basement wall, grants and a grant writer, rodent and pest control, and annual maintenance on the furnaces.

The Outreach/Grow committee reviewed the status of the church pamphlet, internet access, and brainstormed other "events" such as a summer picnic which would be appreciated by the present FPCR family.