



In Touch with FPCR

WELCOME PASTOR CATHY MANTHEI

On October 8, FPCR will officially welcome **Pastor Cathy Manthei** to the FPCR family as its next minister. During that day’s communion service Pastor Manthei will be commissioned by **Judi Holmes Jensen**.

FPCR and Pastor Manthei have been friends for a while! She served as our moderator assuring the business of the church was accomplished. In that capacity, she made herself available as an advisor and worked closely with the session and its clerk, **Elaine Schmidt**. She also chaired session meetings and the past three annual congregational meetings. When she retired from full-time pastoral service in June she also decided to stay in the ministry. Pastor Manthei and Elaine spoke about a part-time opportunity at FPCR. Last month the Milwaukee Presbytery, Pastor Manthei, and the FPCR session were able to sign and deliver a contract.

Pastor Manthei is excited, energetic, and ready to serve. She champions helping others and appreciates the work FPCR does with the Slinger Food Pantry and its other benevolent endeavors. Please see page 3 for a message and contact information from Pastor Manthei. The letter includes an invitation to contact her with pastoral care concerns, to talk over a cup of coffee, or to attend a family event. She is planning to be in the area each week.

WELCOME! We hope you feel, as we do, that this is a “fit” God, in all his wisdom, orchestrated.

FPCR RETURNS TO WEEKLY SERVICES



With the exciting news that Pastor Manthei will be our next minister, FPCR is once again able to open its doors for worship services on a **WEEKLY** basis. So, mark your calendars to include 10 am FPCR services **each and every Sunday!** Bring your friends and neighbors! It has been awhile!

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Mark your calendars to attend FPCR’s services on **October 8, 15, 22, and 29**.

This month’s Bible Study will take place on **October 1** via Zoom.

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.

OCTOBER 8

Communion Service
Commissioning of Pastor
Cathy Manthei
Message:

Please Don't Doubt!!

OCTOBER 15

Message: **You Have to Serve Somebody**

OCTOBER 22

Message: **Center of Life**

OCTOBER 29

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

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

OCTOBER 1 BIBLE STUDY

TOPIC: TRIAL AND TRUST

The next Bible Study is **Sunday, October 1**, at **10 am** via **Zoom**. A link to this online meeting was sent on **Thursday, September 28**. To join the group for the first time, please email FPCR or contact leader, **Elaine Schmidt**.

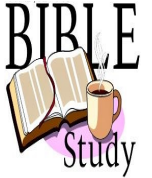
The group continues to study the Book of John and will discuss John 18:1-27 on October 1.

Last month's lesson (*Jesus Prays for Us*) showed the concerns of Jesus' heart as he faced the cross. The lesson discussed how those concerns should be our concerns as his followers. It also proved to be a good lesson about prayer.

John 17 has Jesus praying for himself, his disciples, and all believers. We talked about the fact that using this outline from

John 17 to pray regularly makes/will make a big difference in our lives. We discussed eternal life and the idea that we are living eternal life each and every day. It is our "here and now" as well as our "future"—there is nothing to fear. The lesson pointed out that God is always with us and we are safe with Him. The disciples are an example of this caring and safety. Their lives were difficult after Jesus died, however, they continued to pray and were faithful. He took care of them during difficult times and they are now with Him.

Remember to pray often! Pray for yourself, your family and friends, and the people whom you are able to influence—colleagues, neighbors, etc.



THE FPCR FAMILY WELCOMES

MARK MANTHEI

WE ENJOY HAVING YOU WITH US FOR WORSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP EACH WEEK.



CURRENT SLINGER FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

Rick and Cathy Romanski report that the last Slinger Food Pantry delivery included: **167 items!** A check was also mailed to the Pantry for **\$425** reflecting your generous cash donations.

The Pantry is grateful for any/all donations and has the same current needs as last month:

Tomato Sauce · Tomato Paste · Chunky Soups · Juice (Any Kind) · Coffee · Tea · Brownie Mixes · 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; Annette Schmidt; Hartford High School Athlete, Michael Turner; and Daryl Schmidt.

Please also pray for: **the people of Ukraine.**



A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR CATHY MANTHEI

Hello BELOVED CONGREGATION!

I am so excited to be your new pastor. I am a commissioned ruling elder (CRE); I attended Dubuque Seminary, much of it online. Before seminary I worked 23 years for the Walworth County Sheriff's office. I began ministry at Apostle Presbyterian Church in West Allis on September 1, 2011, and left on June 11, 2023. My husband Mark and I live in West Allis; all five of our children are grown.

My call to ministry came when I was very young, but my mother insisted I couldn't possibly be a minister. I took that to mean I

wasn't smart enough; she instead was trying to protect me. You see in 1960 ministry was still very much male dominated and my mom didn't want me to have to fight for my place in the world. She died when I was quite young, but I think she would be proud of my work.

My phone number is **262 949 6750** and my email is **mantheicj@gmail.com**. If you have ANY kind of need, please reach out!!! I would love to go to lunch or dinner with any of you!!! I love music and would love to attend any children/grandchildren's concerts. I want to be seen in the community so I will be in/around Richfield Thursday morning and Friday afternoon (beginning the first week in October). I hope you will feel very free to contact me. In the future, my exact schedule and location will be announced ahead of time.

I have so much more to say, but I will leave this here. Any questions or comments, please let me know—I REALLY look forward to hearing from you.

Keep praying—be grateful—See you in church!!

Cathy

REMEMBER TO LOVE ALWAYS AND ALL WAYS!!!

THANK YOU, PAUL ZACHOW

At the September 24 service, we said thank you and good-bye to **Mr. Paul Zachow, MAPS**.

Mr. Zachow conducted services at FPCR twice a month as a Pulpit Supply beginning in 2018. During that time, he ministered to the FPCR family in a kind, concerned, and caring manner. We also appreciate that he played a role in keeping the doors of FPCR open amidst COVID concerns and the issues small churches are having "calling" ministers.

To continue following God's calling in his life, he plans to assist area UCC congregations as a pulpit supply. We wish him God's richest blessings.



Paul Zachow (left) receives thanks from Jim and Carol Frank (standing) and Cheryl Weber (seated).



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

3 - Noah Deibert

12 - Cathy Romanski

25 - Kathleen Schmidt

NEW HYMN ON OCTOBER 8

During the October 8 service, we will sing a new hymn, *I, the Lord of Sea and Sky*. If you haven't heard this hymn you might want to listen to it on YouTube prior to the 8th. Just click the link below (if you are reading this electronically) or type the following into your browser. Enjoy . . .

<https://bit.ly/Hymn69>

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.

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.



- **Rick Romanski** for troubleshooting and repairing recent water issues at the church.
- **Scott and Shelley Schoeni** for treats on September 10 after the service.
- **Jean Zeller** for sharing freshly picked garden produce.
- **Elaine Schmidt** for redoing the outdoor sign. The letters tend to get "crisp" from the sun, break, and fall out of their proper places. We are fortunate that Elaine has an abundance of patience!

First Presbyterian Church of Richfield

Location:
2281 Highway 164
Richfield, WI 53076

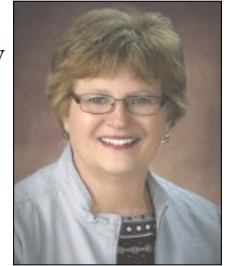
Mailing Address:
PO Box 22
Richfield, WI 53076

Website:
<https://www.FirstPresbyofRichfield.com>

Email:
FirstPresbyofRichfield@gmail.com

CONGRATULATIONS, ELAINE SCHOENI

Elaine Schoeni's last day of work was Friday, September 29. Whenever you next see her, she will still be cheering! She is extremely happy to be able to retire and enjoy her friends, family, hobbies, and free time. She loves to read, is always up to date on the latest movies, and enjoys the theater. She gets enjoyment from making cards and other projects using her extensive rubber stamp collection and supplies. Travel continues to be high on her list of "hobbies" as is attending the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) event annually in Oshkosh.



Elaine most recently worked for Bellin Health Care, Green Bay, WI, at their Psychiatric Center—Ashwaubenon. She is a licensed clinical social worker with a background in psychology and counsels all ages, particularly seniors 65 and older.

If you ask her what excites her most about retiring, it is a "toss up" among the daily commute from Appleton to Green Bay, the stress of technology, the long hours, or the workplace changes. Like everyone else, COVID impacted her workplace, co-workers, and clients. A Zoom counseling session is simply different from a face-to-face experience!

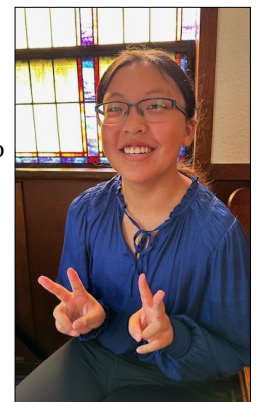
We wish Elaine a long and happy retirement and look forward to seeing her often as a constant part of the FPCR family.

WELCOME TO FPCR'S NEW MUSICIANS

As we move to weekly services, the session approved two additional keyboard players. FPCR is excited to welcome **Melody Li** and **Eric Zhang** to the group of talented musicians who play for weekly services. Melody (right) played for the first time on September 24; Eric will begin on November 12. We look forward to meeting and singing with him at that time.

Catalina will play the keyboard on October 8 and 22; Melody, October 15; and Eric, November 19. Shira, a senior in high school this year, is presently "on leave" to complete college applications, compete with her tennis team, and keep up with her school work. She will return in 2024.

Please enjoy Catalina, Eric, Melody, and Shira and the talent they share with us on Sunday mornings. All have practiced since they were children and have taken countless lessons over the years. FPCR is so very fortunate to have each and every one of them!



Melody Li played for FPCR on September 24.

World Communion Sunday and Peace and Global Witness Offering

The first Sunday in October is designated as **World Communion Sunday**. At FPCR we will celebrate on October 8. World Communion Sunday celebrates our oneness in Christ with our brothers and sisters around the world. Appropriately, the annual **Peace and Global Witness Offering** will be accepted as a way of continuing the ancient Christian practice of sharing what we have with those in need. (For more information about this offering, click the purple text above if you are reading digitally or browse to <https://bit.ly/PeaceGlobalWitness23>.)

This special offering is sponsored by PC(USA). FPCR retains 25% for the Slinger Food Pantry; 25% will be mailed to the Synod of Lakes and Prairies for ministries of peace and reconciliation; and 50% will be sent to Presbyterian Church (USA)/Presbyterian Mission to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness.