First Presbyterian Church of Red Wing
503 West Sixth Street
Red Wing, MN 55066

First Presbyterian Church - Red Wing

Pres.Bits

Apr 2025, Vol. 25 Issue 4

A Showcase of Talent & Fellowship

March brought joy, laughter, and incredible talent to First Presbyterian Church as we hosted our first ever Talent Show! From music and comedy to poetry and performances, our congregation came together to share their gifts in a wonderful afternoon of fellowship.
A special thank you to all who participated, prepared the delicious luncheon, and cheered on our talented performers.
What a wonderful reminder that each of us has a gift to share!

Happy Birthday!

4/4 Darlene Hudson
4/5 Jessica Yates
4/6 Matt Hanson
4/11 Abigail Schmaltz
4/14 Cassidy Kohlnhofer
4/14 Doug Fryer
4/14 Paula Marshall

4/17 Solvi Perau
4/18 Scott Halverson
4/20 Bob McCaughtry
4/23 Ernestine Houston
4/24 Edie Williams
4/25 Ruth Misenko

Update from the PNC

Hello Church Family:

The PNC continues its search for the next pastor of First Presbyterian of Red Wing. We meet regularly and discuss candidates and consider ways to expand our search. We have reviewed and evaluated the Ministry Discernment Profiles of one hundred ten candidates. In addition, we have looked at three candidates who are outside the PCUSA system and presented their information in a different format. These three candidates are valid but are currently not PCUSA members. To date ninety-seven candidates are no longer under consideration either by the decision of the PNC, the decision of the candidates, or for other reasons. Presently the PNC is in the discernment process of nine potential candidates. In March we conducted three interviews and are scheduling a second interview with one candidate in April. It is important to note that there has been a significant increase in candidates and in March fifteen new candidates were identified in the PCUSA Church Leadership Connection (CLC). Of the fifteen new candidates, two accepted the invitation to apply, seven declined, and six candidates have not replied.

Upcoming Holy Week Service Schedule

Palm Sunday, April 13 – 10 a.m. service at FPCRW
Maundy Thursday, April 17 – 7 p.m. service at FPCRW
Good Friday, April 18 – Update: Service Cancelled
Easter Sunday, April 20 – 10 a.m. service at FPCRW

Worship Volunteer Schedule:

Sunday Apr. 6: Layleader – Jennifer Beck, Greeter – Ruth Misenko, Usher – Paula Marshall, Coffee/Fellowship – Julie Martin
Sunday Apr. 13: Layleader – ?, Greeter – Pam Paulus, **Usher – ?,** Coffee/Fellowship – Pam Paulus
Thursday Apr. 17: Greeter – ?, Usher – ?
Sunday Apr. 20: Layleader – ?, Greeter – Joan Franklin, Usher – Joan & Daryl Franklin, **Coffee/Fellowship – ?**
Sunday Apr. 27: Layleader – ?, Greeter – ?, Usher – ?, Coffee/Fellowship – Ruth Misenko

If you would like to sign up please see Valerie in the office or sign up sheets are on the table in the narthex.

Your Church Staff Contact Information

Pastor Casey vanderBent	pastorcasey@firstpresbyterianredwing.com 651-327-2355 (non-emergency) 651-491-4997 (emergency)
Valerie Miller—Office Manager	office@firstpresbyterianredwing.com 651-327-2358 (o) 651-380-5029 (c)
Tricia Perau - Director of CE	dce@firstpresbyterianredwing.com 651-327-2350
Peggy Thompson—Treasurer	treasurer@firstpresbyterianredwing.com
JoAnne McNamara—Organist	*(see directory for contact information)*
Lynn Dulak—Pianist	"
Scott Perau—Choir Director	"
Peter Dulak—Sexton	"
Hayley McTaggart--Nursery Attendant	"
Piper Ryan--Nursery Attendant	"
Silas Perau--Worship Tech	"
Abby Schmaltz--Worship Tech	"

Your Church Elders

Scott Halverson
Daisy Hofer
JoAnne McNamara
Dale Wagner
Doug Fryer
Bob Walker
Daryl Franklin

Your Church Deacons

Anne Barlass—Chair
Susan Crocker
Joy Smith
Mary Ellen Halverson
Sandy Walker
Bonnie Lohmann
Ruth Misenko
Bit Skaar
Nancy Wagner

Upcoming Holidays/Office Closures

April 21 : Easter Monday

April 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10-2 Office Hours 4 p.m. Deacons Meeting	**2** 8 a.m. Men's Book Club 10-2 Office Hours 10 a.m. Tai Chi 12 p.m. Ecumenical Lent Service 7 p.m. Choir Practice	**3** 10-2 Office Hours	**4** Church Office Closed	**5**
6 9 a.m. First Sunday Forum 10 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Fellowship	**7** 10-2 Office Hours 4:30 p.m. Christian Ed. Meeting 6 p.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Scouts	**8** 10-2 Office Hours 4 p.m. Building & Grounds	**9** 8 a.m. Men's Book Club 10-2 Office Hours 10 a.m. Tai Chi 12 p.m. Ecumenical Lent Service	**10** 10-2 Office Hours	**11** Church Office Closed	**12**
13 Palm Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Education 10 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Fellowship	**14** 10-2 Office Hours 6 p.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Scouts	**15** 10-2 Office Hours	**16** 8 a.m. Men's Book Club 10-2 Office Hours 10 a.m. Tai Chi	**17 Maundy Thursday** 10-2 Office Hours 7 p.m. Maundy Thurs. Service	**18 Good Friday** Church Office Closed	**19**
20 Easter Sunday 9 a.m. Adult Education 10 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Sunday School 11:30 a.m. Fellowship	**21 Office Closed – Easter Monday** No Bible Study No Scouts	**22 Earth Day** 10-2 Office Hours 5 p.m. Finance & Stewardship	**23** 8 a.m. Men's Book Club 10-2 Office Hours 10 a.m. Tai Chi 7 p.m. Session	**24** 10-2 Office Hours	**25** Church Office Closed	**26**
27 9 a.m. Adult Education 10 a.m. Worship 10:15 a.m. Sunday School 11 a.m. Fellowship	**28** 10-2 Office Hours 6 p.m. Bible Study 6:30 p.m. Scouts	**29** 10-2 Office Hours	**30** 8 a.m. Men's Book Club 10-2 Office Hours 10 a.m. Tai Chi			

From the Pastor…

Dear People of FPC,

I don't know about you, but I'm itching to get out into my garden. I want to skip past all of this "it isn't time yet" business and start planting. Of course, I can't...not if I want things to survive. I'll just have to put up with this time of transition in seasons, knowing that warm weather is on its way and soon I'll be wondering why I was in a hurry (when I'm trying to find time to mow and weed and all that). Actually, what I need to do is to enjoy what's happening right now: to revel in the arrival of the first Robins, already calling out to each other in my back yard, and to look for and delight in the first signs of spring that happen without my careful stewardship, naturally and beautifully.

Perhaps you are feeling, on some level, that it's been a "long winter" of our transition at FPCRW and you're itching to get out there and meet the church's future. I don't blame you. The greatest thing that spurs my actions as your intentional transitional pastor is simply to be your pastor for a while and to take care of you. One of the things that closely follows that is my desire for you to complete your transition successfully and at the earliest date possible. That is so important for you. At the same time, though, you really can take the time to enjoy some of these beautiful moments that are present even when we're not there yet. Right now, this very day, even in this very moment, the Spirit of God is at work doing memorable and beautiful things and I truly don't want you to miss them. Please don't miss the moments in worship when you get to see the faces of our young people, or hear the gorgeous notes of a song by the choir, or (if I'm really diligent and God is helping a lot) finding a sense of peace or hope from a message. There's energy in the church, with committees meeting regularly, planning fun stuff. The sounds of the little kids in the Montessori or in our own Sunday School classes are life affirming.

So let's enjoy this continued time of transition together, with all of its beautiful moments, and let's remember to thank God for this time and the lovely people we get to share it with.

Yours in Christ

Pastor Casey

This Month's Scheduled Meetings:

Apr. 1: Deacons
Apr. 2: Choir Practice
Apr. 7: Christian Education
Apr. 8: Building & Grounds
Apr. 22: Finance & Stewardship
Apr. 23: Session

* A Season of Reflection, Connection & Community*

March marked the beginning of Lent, a time of reflection, prayer, and renewal as we journey toward Easter. As we embrace this sacred season, we also celebrate the connections within our church family—including our youth, who gathered for a fun-filled afternoon of lunch and bowling. Looking ahead, we continue our mission of community engagement with our First Sunday Forum on April 6 at 9 AM, featuring Adriana Thuerauf, Community Engagement Manager for Hispanic Outreach. Building on our church's long history of supporting this worthy organization, Adriana will share insights on their impactful work and ways we can be involved. Join us as we learn, grow, and serve together!

A Note from our Deacons:

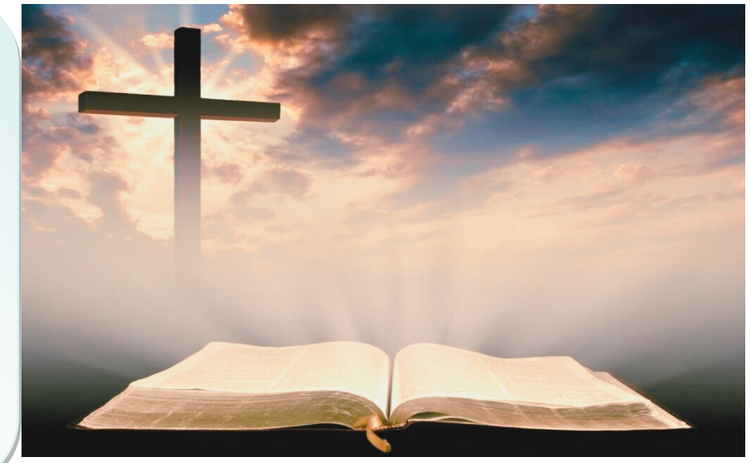
A Heartfelt thank you from Missy Phillips. After surviving a sepsis infection in March she is feeling lucky to be alive. She really appreciates all of our prayers and financial support throughout this nightmare. She will be selling her house soon and looking for one-level living.

The Deacons rely on your generosity to support members of our congregation facing financial hardships. If you feel called to give, please note "Deacon Fund" on your check of offering envelope - your support makes a meaningful difference in the lives of those in need. The Deacons are currently attempting to provide assistance to two families in the church who have been confronted with serious financial difficulties.

Bible Study
Mondays 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

Pastor Casey is leading the bible study

All are welcome!



Sunday School:

4 Sundays per month during adult worship service.

Youth will be dismissed after the "Moment for Youth" during worship to attend.

Adult Education:

Sunday Mornings at 9:00 AM in the Conference Room or Fellowship Hall.

All are welcome and childcare will be available in the nursery.

April 6: No Adult Ed - First Sunday Forum

April 13: Unlearning Machismo

April 20: No Adult Ed - Easter

April 27: Holy Touch

Led by Natasha Yates