

Community

Presbyterian Church

of

Lac du Flambeau

Community Press

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To: All the “Good and Gentlefolk” of Community
Presbyterian Church of Lac du Flambeau, Wi.

Greetings!

It is mid-afternoon in late October as I write this month’s Newsletter. It is dreary outdoors, as it has been for many days, with an exception here and there to tease and remind us of the passing summer. Not only is the weather dreary, but as usual our numbers have diminished to their winter range and we are already missing many of our dear friends. One might think by this time, that is, over the past 13 years, I would have gotten used to these changes, but truthfully, it has been and is sad. On the other hand, we can look forward to next spring, when we will surely experience another wonderful resurgence of life renewed. Life must go on and so we continue our worship and work here in the beautiful Northwoods and look forward to loving and serving our God and doing all we can to alleviate pain, suffering and prejudice in the world around us. That is: to follow the gospel mandate to “Love God” and to “love and serve humanity.” This is a difficult, but most meaningful, task for all of us.

In doing this we are supported in our faith from many areas of our lives: celebrating our faith at different, but equally significant times, of the year, e.g. Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Holy Week, from the beautiful, simple story of the manger to the poignant entry of Jesus riding into Jerusalem on a beast of burden, to His Trial, beating and death, followed by the joy, grace, and love of God’s ultimate redemptive gift. It is incumbent upon us to open our hearts, spirits and minds to the power this faith can have in a world in desperate need today. We should diligently remember these events as the essence of our faith, as the foundation of our belief and that which gives our lives hope. We should reach out to all human beings regardless of race, gender, status in, or style of, life.

It is never too late, nor inappropriate to reflect deeply on these challenges. The ancient Anglo-Saxon word be-lief literally means what a person lives by—and so we must. We draw strength from our faith; we discover hope for our lives; we feel the grace and love of God who surrounds us as we think and act on all these things (and more). But this is still meaningless unless we convert our thoughts into

reality, unless we actually do our best to live these values as truly and often as we are able. We may not be able to accomplish “great” deeds; our talent and resources may be limited, but let me clearly state: no good deed, no real concern for another human being is too small to be pleasing to God, to be of value in this life, or go unnoticed by those who see with eyes of faith. The significance of this is made clear to us in the concluding

sentence Paul’s great **Hymn of Love** in his first letter to the Corinthians where he wrote: “...faith, hope, love abide, these three, but the greatest of these is love.”

Demonstrating love, doing the good, sharing with those less fortunate are values and principles worth pursuing; they are things of beauty. The great English poet, John Keats, captured this thought magnificently when he penned these immortal words in his masterpiece,

Endymion:

A thing of beauty is a joy forever;

Its loveliness increases; it will never

Pass into nothingness; but still will keep

A bower quiet for us, and a sleep

Full of sweet dreams, and health, and quiet
breathing.

The Christian gospel, properly understood as “agape-love”, and gently, kindly lived, is itself “a thing of beauty and a joy” even to eternity. It brings peace, even in a tumultuous world; it manifests the good in and through us and encourages us to share this love with all we meet.

Before closing let me say—on a very different topic—how beautiful the fall, the changing of the leaves, has been this year for Carolyn and me. We have never seen such beauty, as we travel almost daily down route 47 to Minocqua, before our very eyes; brilliant reds, yellows, filtered with the deep, rich greens. What a sight—incredible. And then I

thought, maybe I am seeing them for the first time in this light, this year, because I am really looking, thoughtfully seeing. And maybe, just maybe, I should have been as keen with my eyesight on all things in the world. And then, perhaps, I can make an even greater impact.

And now, may the grace of God surround us all; may the gentle power of our God uphold us

always; and may the love of our God flow forth from us in all we say and do.

That's it for now and as always,

Pax et Caritas,

Bill Anderson

SESSION NOTES FROM OCTOBER

After determining there was a quorum, the Moderator, Dr. Anderson, called the meeting to order with an opening prayer at 10:00 AM on Friday October 11, 2019.

Two people still need to be nominated for the Board of Deacons. Dr. Anderson will make an appeal to the Congregation at Sunday services. If no one volunteers we may have to change the number of members we have on the Board.

After some discussion, the budget was approved as submitted. However, expenses continue to exceed the income.

Stewardship cards need to be returned so that the Budget Planning for next year can proceed.

The next regular scheduled meeting will be on Friday, November 8, 2019.

With no further business to be brought before the Session, a motion was made that the meeting should adjourn. Meeting was closed with prayer at 11:15 AM.

Respectfully,

Kathy LaBarge, Clerk

HIGHWAY "D" CLEANUP

Thanks to the volunteer that helped our Church with the Fall 2019 Hy D Cleanup. We do from WI Hy 70 north to Indian Village Road. It was a nice day considering all the rain this year. Sunny, some wind, and 60 degrees. This year we had 7 men and 3 women with an international mix. Note that Grant Callow came down from Alaska and Bob Schneider returned from Vietnam just so they could walk the ditches.

Volunteers were Grant Callow, Rick and Ruth Ann Kamerad, Tom and Carol Gelwicks, Ralph Kerler, Bob Schneider, Steve Schunk, Marge Sholta, and Ron Wilke. It's always satisfying to get back to the natural beauty of our local roads.



COFFEE HOUR HOSTS FOR OCTOBER

were:

OCT. 6, 2019: Ginny Stiles & Barbara Schneider

OCT. 13, 2019: Linda Lockwood

OCT. 20, 2019: Deb & Ron Wilke

OCT. 27, 2019: Mary Jane Hettinga

Thank you all for your time, hard work and contribution to the fellowship.

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Carolyn Anderson	Nov. 6
Ginny Stiles	Nov. 9
Barbara Metz	Nov. 14
Jillanne Consie	Nov. 16

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Richard and Helen Day	Nov. 24
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THE CHOIR CORNER

By perusing the anthem schedule for November, you might have noticed that the choir is not scheduled for the last Sunday of the month. This is now an ongoing practice. That is a decision that was approved by our Pastor and Session to ease the burden of limited participation requiring, at times, choir members singing outside their normal vocal range to develop an acceptable harmony. When coupled with our normal practice of singing the Peace song immediately following the choral anthem on Peace Sunday, it suggested that a break would be most welcome for our members. The Choir will continue to attempt to provide a meaningful adjunct to the worship experience, but truthfully, it is becoming an unsettling burden to ask so much of so few.

From your webmaster, we are making progress in providing a meaningful, informative website. If you have not signed onto the site and become a subscriber, you have not taken advantage of all the features available to you, e.g., delivery of the Newsletter on line saving the church postage and preparation to deliver it via snail mail or the hassle of picking it up at church, signing for the pickup, etc. Furthermore, you are missing the announcement of upcoming events, and other features of life within the church. So get on the band wagon and start participating. Become informed of what your church is doing in the way of Mission giving, and general church activity, e.g., what about that Tom Turkey theft and the puzzle associated with the names of participants ???

The anthems for November are (conditions permitting):

November 3: Come to the Feast

November 10: Steal Away

November 17: Bless This House

Respectfully submitted,

Sam Shugar, Music Director & Webmaster

NOVEMBER SCRIPTURE READINGS

NOV. 3, 2019

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time
Communion Sunday
Had. 1: 1-4; 2: 1-4; Ps. 119: 137-144;
2 Thess. 1: 1-4, 11-12; Luke 19: 1-10

Nov. 10, 2019

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Hag. 1: 15b-2:9; Ps. 145: 1-5, 17-21 or Ps. 98;
2 Thess. 2: 1-5, 13-17; Luke 20: 27-38

Nov. 17, 2019

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
Isa. 65: 17-25; *Isa. 12*; 2 Thess 3: 6-13; Luke 21: 5-19

Nov. 24, 2019

34th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Jer. 23: 1-6; *Luke 1: 68-79*; Col. 1:11-20;
Luke 23: 33-43

These readings are suggested by the Presbyterian Planning Calendar and may be changed depending on the topic of the sermon. Liturgists will be called each week to tell them what the readings will be.

Liturgists for the month of November will be:

Nov. 3: Ralph Kerler
Nov.10: Dick Rosenthal
Nov.17:
Nov.24:

Ushers for the month of November will be:

Nov. 3:
Nov. 10:
Nov. 17:
Nov. 24:

As you can see, we are in serious need of Liturgists and Ushers. Please sign up for Liturgist and Ushers in the Fellowship Hall. Your participation is urgently needed and greatly appreciated. Thank you for your help.

Present Tense

After "turkey day" came and went last year, a pastor challenged church members to ask one another not "How was your Thanksgiving?" But "How *is* your Thanksgiving?" After all, giving thanks should be an ongoing act.

That doesn't always need to be profoundly deep, either. A.J. Jacobs, author of *Thanks a Thousand*, once asked a philosophy-professor friend what he was grateful for. The shockingly simple reply? "Sometimes I'm just grateful I have arms." That odd but spot-on answer shows the importance, Jacob says, of being "thankful for things so omnipresent that they can escape our notice."

So...how *is* your Thanksgiving?

Reflections on gratitude

God is in control, and therefore in everything I can give thanks – not because of the situation but because of the One who directs and rules over it.
Kay Arthur

It is not happiness that makes us grateful. It's gratefulness that makes us happy.
David Steindl-Rast

Gratitude is the least of the virtues, but ingratitude is the worst of vices.
Thomas Fuller

A proud man is seldom a grateful man, for he never thinks he gets as much as he deserves.
Henry Ward Beecher

**HAPPY and Safe
THANKSGIVING
To All**

**From the
Wisconsin Northwoods**

**Community Presbyterian Church
Of Lac du Flambeau**

Special Dates for November

All Saint's Day Nov. 1, 2019

Daylight-Saving Time Ends Nov. 3, 2019

Veteran's Day Nov.11, 2019

Christ the King Sunday Nov.24, 2019

Thanksgiving Day Nov.28, 2019

As people of God and servants of our Lord Jesus Christ, we believe our Mission to be the building of a strong fellowship, ministering to the Spiritual and physical needs of the church, the community, and the world, fulfilling our Lord's command to "Love our neighbors".