

Community

Presbyterian Church

of

Lac du Flambeau

Community Press

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September 2020

To: All the Good and Faithful Folk of the
Lac du Flambeau Presbyterian Church

In my Annual Report for our Congregational Meeting which took place on Sunday, August 23rd at the conclusion of morning worship, I spent some time alluding to the difficulties we have had in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. It really started to affect us dramatically on the first Sunday of April, which is the last time we gathered as a community of faith "in the church." So, for almost 5 months now we have been trying to meet the needs of our worship with "virtual" services. Over time we have gotten more proficient at the new way of communicating, but it is, nevertheless, nothing like a personal sanctuary service. We shall continue to do our best until we can safely return to our normal way of doing things.

In order to that congregational meeting, we had to have a quorum present in order to conduct business. Our quorum is not difficult to meet since we only need to have 10 communicant members present. However, to make certain we met that quorum, I asked a number of people if they would come and worship in the sanctuary for that purpose. I invited a few more than necessary, just in case. We met the requirement with many to spare. So, for the first time since April 5th we had some parishioners in the pews, well-distanced and masked. It was

a small group, but very warming having people present beyond those who have been here all along, helping with the technical aspects of our on-line service. And the folks who came seemed very happy to see some other parishioners whom they have not seen for a very long time. Hopefully, the scientists will resolve this terrible problem soon, especially if the politicians get out of the way and allow them to do their work. Arguably this is the worst scenario in the history of the United States, and if not, it is very near the top. Let's hope we can get together and work together and conquer or at least gain control of this devastating virus. In the meantime, live the life of faith and love and you "will" make a difference, whether you see it right away or not, or even never see it.

Carolyn and I hope you are managing to get along in this time of major crisis and our thoughts and prayers go with you always. To borrow a phrase from another crisis period, "we shall overcome," if we do not lose courage and faith.

Peace, joy and love be with you!

Bill A

SESSION NOTES from August 2020

After determining there was a quorum the moderator, Dr. Anderson called the meeting to order at 9:58 AM with an opening prayer.

Video services are going well and we will continue with them until further notice. There are a few members attending services at the church. If you would like to come to the church, social distancing and mask wearing will be observed.

The budget currently has enough money to keep the church functioning for now. Just a reminder that contributions can still be sent to the church even though there are no Sunday Services. Four Elders need to be replaced on the Session. Several names were suggested and members of the Session will contact these people to see if they are interested.

With no further business to be brought before the Session, motion was made to adjourn. Meeting was closed with prayer at 11:14 AM.
Next scheduled meeting will be September 11, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy LaBarge, Clerk of Session

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

BIRTHDAYS

JoAnne Zickert	Sept. 3
Dave Peterman	Sept. 3
Arlene Harle	Sept. 5
Betty Adams	Sept. 8
Elaine Jordan	Sept. 12
BobSchneider	Sept. 14
Linda Biek	Sept. 14
Helen Day	Sept. 18
Bob Clarke	Sept. 19

ANNIVERSARIES

Frank & Nancy DiCristina	Sept. 3
Sam & Shirley Shugar	Sept. 3
Dennis & Sue Robertson	Sept. 7
Dave & Nancy Buel	Sept. 7

SEPTEMBER 2020 SCRIPTURE READINGS

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September 6, 2020

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Communion Sunday

Exod. 12:1-14; Ps.149; Rom. 13:8-14;

Matt. 18:15-20

September 13, 2020

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exod. 14:19-31; Ps. 114 or Exod. 15:1b-11,20-21

Rom. 14:1-12; Matt. 18:21-35

September 20, 2020

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exod. 16:2-15; Ps. 105:1-6,37-45; Phil. 1:21-30;

Matt. 20:1-16

September 27, 2020

26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Exod. 17:1-7; Ps. 78:1-4,12-16;

Phil. 2:1-13; Matt. 21:23-32

These readings are suggested by the Presbyterian Planning Calendar and may be changed depending on the topic of the sermon.

SPECIAL DATES for AUGUST 2020

Labor Day	Sept. 7
Patriot Day	Sept. 11
National Grandparents Day	Sept. 13
Hispanic Heritage Month	Sept. 15-Oct.15
First Day of autumn	Sept. 22
Rosh Hashanah begins	Sept. 18
Rosh Hashanah ends	Sept. 20
Yom Kippur	Sept.27-28

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".

“Every tomorrow has two handles. We can take hold of it with the handle of anxiety or the handle of faith.”

Henry Ward Beecher

“When we long for life without difficulties, remind us that oaks grow strong in contrary winds and diamonds are made under pressure.”

Peter Marshall

“Youth is the gift of nature, but age is a work of art.”

Stanislaw Jerzy Lec

When God crosses our paths

Pastor and martyr Dietrich Bonhoeffer wrote, “God will be constantly crossing our paths and canceling our plans by sending us people with claims and petitions.” Last spring, the whole world had plans cancelled, first by Covid-19 and then by God “sending us people with claims and petitions.” Some needed prayers for healing or for coping with grief. Medical staff, teachers, pastors and others serving long hours needed support: meals, check-in calls, “thinking of you” cards. Parents working remotely while helping kids with distance-learning needed encouragement. Crucial nonprofit work still required donations.

Pre-pandemic, you may not have realized that staying home or wearing a face mask could be a ministry. Or that sending a card expresses love in Jesus’ name. Or that buying takeout from a local restaurant can be a gift to the owners. When our calendars empty, God “crosses our paths” in new ways – both to be with us and to nudge us toward others (even if virtually, or 6 feet apart!)

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The Newsletter *Newsletter for September*

“Letter From Grandma”

Hi: A few changes have come into my life since I last wrote you. Frankly, I’ve become a frivolous old gal. I’m seeing five gentlemen every day. As soon as I wake up, Will Power helps me get out of bed. Then I go see John. Then Charlie Horse comes along, and when he’s here he takes a lot of my time and attention. When he leaves, Arthur Ritis shows up and stays the rest of the day. He doesn’t like to stay in one place very long, so he takes me from joint to joint. After such a busy day, I’m really tired and glad to go to bed with Ben Gay. What a life! Oh yes, I’m also flirting with Al Zymer.

Love Grandma

P.S. The preacher came to call the other day. He said at my age I should be thinking of the hereafter. I told him, “Oh I do all the time. No matter where I am, in the parlor, upstairs, in the kitchen, or down in the basement, I ask myself, “Now, what am I here after?”

QUOTES FROM CORRIE TEN BOOM

“There is no pit so deep, that God’s love is not deeper still.” (One of my favorites)

“If you look at the world, you’ll be distressed. If you look within, you’ll be depressed. But if you look at Christ, you’ll be at rest.”

“Worry is like a rocking chair: it keeps you moving but doesn’t get you anywhere.”

“You can never learn that Christ is all you need, until Christ is all you have.”

QUOTES FROM DIETRICH BONHOEFFER

“God loves human beings. God love the world. Not an ideal human, but human beings as they are; not an ideal world, but the real world. What we find repulsive in their opposition to God, what we sharing back from with pain and hostility...this is for God the ground of unfathomable love.”

“The first service one owes to others in a community involves listening to them. Just as our love for God begins with listening to God’s Word, the beginning of love for others is learning to listen to them. God’s love for us is shown by the fact that God not only gives God’s Word but also lends us God’s ear. ...We do God’s work for our brothers and sisters when we learn to listen to them.”

“The blessedness of waiting is lost on those who cannot wait, and the fulfillment of promise is never theirs. They want quick answers to the deepest questions of life and miss the value of those times of anxious waiting, seeking with patient uncertainties until the answers come. The lose the moment when the answers are revealed is dazzling clarity.”

