

# the Bridge

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8:30 AM

## SUNDAY SERVICE

Service is streamed live on Facebook. A recording of the stream will be made available on YouTube following the service.

9:30 AM

## COFFEE HOUR

Coffee Hour and Fellowship will be held in the Fellowship Hall immediately following service. Join us for coffee, snacks, and conversation.





**Dear Friends,**

**I'm always amazed at how quickly time goes between Christmas and Easter. It seems like only a few weeks ago that we were in the season of Advent, preparing our hearts and our homes for the birth of Jesus, and now, here we are: only a couple weeks away from Holy Week and Easter Sunday! There is no doubt that time goes too fast. And yet, in the midst of busy and fast-paced lives, I hope that this Lenten season has been a meaningful one for you still.**

**For me, this season has certainly been a busy one as I embark on my first journey to the cross with both Weyauwega and Winneconne, but I have tried to be intentional with my routine, slowing down and finding even little bits of time for prayer and reflection, especially through the practices of lectio divina (sacred reading), visio divina (sacred seeing), and audio divina (sacred listening).**

**If you haven't heard of these practices before, they're pretty simple. In audio divina, for example, you reflect on a musical piece using a four-step process. First is audio. You listen attentively to the piece and notice a word or phrase that stands out. Second is meditatio. You meditate on that word or phrase, considering its meaning and how it speaks to you in the midst of your life. Third is oratio. You enter into a time of prayer, coming before God with your meditations in mind. And fourth is contemplatio or contemplation. You dwell on the music and your meditations, allowing them to take root in your heart.**

**Recently I have been engaging in this practice with "Born in the Night, Mary's Child," a hymn that was actually unfamiliar to me until I began my ministry with all of you. It may initially seem like an odd choice because this is a hymn that we just sang during the seasons of Advent and Christmas, but take a look at the third and fourth verses here:**

**Truth of our life, Mary's Child, you tell us God is good;  
yes, it is true, Mary's Child, shown on your cross of wood.**

**Hope of the world, Mary's Child, you're coming soon to reign;  
King of the earth, Mary's Child, walk in our streets again.**

**Now, for me, the third verse stands out. In a time when there's so much brokenness and fearfulness in our lives and the world around us, when we're desperate for truth and accurate information, it serves as a powerful reminder that God is good. That is the truth. But more than that, it reminds us that God's goodness isn't just revealed in the times and places that we might think of as good or beautiful or peaceful. God's goodness is revealed even in the brokenness and fearfulness of this earthly life. God's goodness is revealed on the cross where Jesus died.**

**As we embark on another Holy Week and venture through the excitement of Palm Sunday, the sobriety of Maundy Thursday, the grief and anguish of Good Friday, and the joy of Easter Sunday, let us never lose sight of that truth. God is good.**

**Rev. Emily**





**SESSION MEMBERS  
&  
MINISTRY TEAMS  
SESSION**

**N HALL  
PERSONNEL**

**JASON HARMON**  
BUILDING,  
GROUNDS AND  
INFRASTRUCTURE  
AND MISSION &  
OUTREACH

**MELISSA HARMON**  
DEACON LIASON

**JESSICA HARRISON**  
TREASURER

**BETTE HOYTINK**  
CLERK

**ROGER HOYTINK**  
BUILDING,  
GROUNDS AND  
INFRASTRUCTURE

**KRISTINA MOSLEY**  
MISSION & OUTREACH

**MARILYN PAULSON**  
WORSHIP/FAITH FORMATION

**DEACONS/MEMBER CARE**  
KAREN ANGELL  
DEB BARTELT  
PEGGY BALFANZ  
SANDRA BUSER

## **SESSION HIGHLIGHTS**

The Session met on March 11.  
No major actions were taken.

Rev. Emily conducted training for the ruling elders, all of whom have served on a previous Session. She presented a document that listed the specific roles and responsibilities of Ruling Elders, the Clerk, the Session as a whole, Deacons, the Pastor/Moderator, and the congregation outlined in the Book of Order. This provided an excellent review and was the basis for good discussion.





# Shrove Tuesday





# *Worship and Faith Formation*

## **LAY READERS NEEDED**

We continue to seek volunteers to assist Rev. Emily during worship as lay readers. This involves reading some prayers and one or two scripture passages. Information is sent to the readers ahead of time. Sign-up sheets are in the entryway at church, or you can let Rev. Emily know of your willingness to help.

**JOURNEY TO THE CROSS:** a devotional experience for your journey through Lent  
You are invited to participate in a daily devotional experience that includes scripture, prayer, and meditative thoughts accompanied by gentle music. This is one of many resources offered by the PCUSA.

Sign up is free for this online devotional experience. To sign up visit the site ([d365.org](http://d365.org)), open the “about” tab, and browse the information. At the bottom of the page there is a space where you can put in your email address to get a daily reminder. This devotional is available all year, but the “Journey to the Cross” runs from March 3rd through April 27th.

**WORSHIP EXPERIENCES DURING LENT** in addition to Sunday morning  
Thursday, April 17th, 6:00 pm – Maundy Thursday soup supper and Taize worship.  
Join us in Fellowship Hall for a light meal and meditative worship experience as we come to the end of our Lenten journey.

Friday, April 18th, 6:00 pm – Good Friday worship service in the sanctuary (no meal).

Easter Sunday, April 20th – Traditional Easter worship followed by the Deacons Easter Breakfast.



# FROM THE DEACONS

Thank you to everyone who contributed products for the annual HELP FOR THE HOMELESS HYGIENE DRIVE between February 23 and March 16. We filled 2 large boxes to overflowing, which surpassed our giving last year. Next year they plan to give us 3 boxes! We were blessed with products in all the categories needed. Bravo and kudos and lots and lots of gratitude.

On Palm Sunday, April 13, everyone attending the service will receive a beautiful, handmade card with an envelope which can be used to send a special Easter greeting to a loved one. Artist Deb Bartelt has created and donated these for our church family and we are blessed to be able to share them with family and friends. Thank you Deb.

The Deacons are coordinating an Easter breakfast which will take place after our service on Easter Sunday, April 20. There is a sign-up sheet in the church entry for interested people to let us know what they can bring to contribute to the meal. Choose an item or two that you can easily purchase and/or prepare for this special morning fellowship. The Deacons will be decorating and setting up the dining room for this meal on Saturday, April 19 at 10:00 a.m.. If you would like to help out please let one of us know your intentions. And thank you in advance!

We know how much everyone appreciates having fellowship - coffee and conversation - again. Some of us would like to have it even more than just once a month. The Deacons will continue to provide a table of treats on the second Sunday of the month, which is the Sunday when we meet after church. But here's an invitation we thought might resonate with everyone. Anyone or any group who wishes to bring a few things to eat is welcome to help out and provide a coffee hour whenever they choose. There is coffee in the kitchen, and a few doughnuts or muffins or cookies would always be welcome. Fancy buffets are not necessary. A little time to gather for conversation and a cup of coffee or juice is fun for all.

Your Deacons,  
Annie Leonard, Karen Angell, Sandy Buser, Roxy Schultz, Deb Bartelt, Peggy Belfanz, and  
Session Liaison, Melissa Harmon







**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
HUNGER • DISASTER • DEVELOPMENT

In Isaiah 58, the prophet exclaims, “Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in” (Isaiah 58:12). As the people of Israel returned from the cloud of exile and struggled to rebuild their lives, Isaiah questioned their efforts: [Are you not called] “to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them?” (Isaiah 58:7).

When we give to the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS), we are combining our efforts with those across the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to repair peoples’ lives — people who are hurting, oppressed, lost or on the margins of society. The exact people about whom Isaiah is speaking of. The people we are called to connect with every day, but especially in the light of the Good News of the resurrection.

We invite you to visit the OGHS website ([pcusa.org/oghsmap](http://pcusa.org/oghsmap)). Find a partner on the map and see how your gifts are used by the ministries these offerings support all over the world and offer prayers for those who will receive support through this offering. Small changes which, when added together here and around the globe, make huge differences in the lives of our siblings in need.

This is an opportunity for our congregation to recommit to our participation to do our part to participate in God’s ongoing repair of the world God so loves.

This year, we challenge each of you to increase your gift to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering to benefit Presbyterian ministries to combat hunger, provide assistance after disaster strikes, and to work with sustainable community development. You will see how giving opens your heart to God’s work in your own life. I hope that you’ll join us as we collect this offering and tangibly witness to the repairing love of God in Jesus Christ through One Great Hour of Sharing.

Yours in Christ,

FPC Mission and Outreach Team  
Jason Harmon  
Kristina Mosley





HOW TO GIVE ONLINE  
WINNCHURCH.ORG

CLICK THE LINK ABOVE  
THEN CLICK "GIVE NOW"



# SHARED MINISTRY FUND

Our income (less pass-thru) for February totaled \$5,377.23. The February expenses were \$8,394.13 which resulted in a deficit of **\$3,016.90** for the month.

Year to Date the deficit is **\$8,329.15**. The reconciled checkbook balance as of 2/28/25 was \$15,050.54

The Per Capita apportionment for our church totals \$2,680. This was paid prior to the end of March.

If you have not already paid your per capita for 2025, please do so as soon as possible.

The Per Capita for 2025 is \$40 per confirmed member of the church.





Visit our website often to get access to past sermons, musical selections from the Harmons, and stay up to date with our church calendar. Click the button below to be taken to our website. Click the "Online Giving" button to be automatically directed to the Online Giving page.

**FPC WEBSITE**

**ONLINE GIVING**



If you don't want to worship in person, please join us in live worship every Sunday, streamed from our Facebook page at 9:00am. FPC of Winneconne regularly posts pictures, videos, church information, and events on our page. Please "like" our Facebook page for updates.

**FPC FACEBOOK**



YouTube gives you access to all of the videos we have produced. Here you can find past worship services and musical selections from the Harmons. Missed our live Sunday Service? Recordings are posted for viewing following the service on our YouTube Channel.

**FPC YOUTUBE**



Various church-related meetings, special gatherings, and Bible Study will be held via Zoom. Links will be provided in our weekly email as scheduled.