



First Pres News

monthly

Volume VIII | August 2025

A note from pastor...

Beginning this month and running through the fall, we will be using resources from the folks at Sanctified Art. The theme is *Unraveled* and speaks to seeking God when our plans fall apart. Below is a description of the series from the authors.

- ♦ What happens when our world falls apart? How do we press onward when our tightly knit plans unravel into loose threads? What do we become when our identity—or the path we're on—comes undone? What if all of this is not the end we fear it will be?
- ♦ In our unraveling, sometimes life surprises us with unexpected joy, love, and hope—with a new beginning we couldn't have imagined. Sometimes we need God to unravel us, for we long to be changed. This worship series explores 12 stories of unraveled shame, identity, fear, grief, dreams, and expectations. These are stories where God meets us in the spiraling, unraveling our plans—and us—into something new. We invite you to customize this series and make it your own, structuring the stories in the order and duration that works best for your context.

Peace,
Darren

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Happy Anniversary!

Jason & Jessica Smith
August 3, 1996

Jerry & Nancy Ritter
August 5, 1961

Dave & Gayle Titus
August 6, 1993

Ben & Catherine Neal
August 10, 1973

Steve & Mary Bernstein
August 23, 1977

Happy Birthday!

3 Zachary Higgs
Janna Smith

5 Georgia Hall

6 Steve Fringer

12 Cody LaMarr

21 Steve Simpson
Theo Leavell

22 Mac MacCaughey

27 Evelyn Vanderheyden

28 Mary Johnson
Bud Eastman

Greeters

- 3 Bev, Ginny
- 10 Bud, Vi, Linda
- 17 MacCaugheys
- 24 Nancy & Jerry
- 31 TBA

Liturgists

- 3 Deb Yale
- 10 Picnic
- 17 Jenny Eastman
- 24 Mary Bernstein
- 31 Georgia Herrera

Ushers

- 3 John, Linnea B., Jeff L.
- 10 Larry, Sharon, Alan G.
- 17 Steve, Ken
- 24 Nancy, LuAnn
- 31 John, Linnea B., Jeff L.

Fellowship

- 3 Jeff Leavell & Georgia Herrera
- 10 Picnic
- 17 John & Linnea Brooke
- 24 Jerry & Nancy Ritter
- 31 Dave & Ginny Holle

*Thank you to ALL who provide the
coffee & treats for Fellowship time!*

Dear First Presbyterians,

*It was a wonderful Worship
and Recognition Celebration Sunday!
So appreciate your beautiful card
and generous Amazon gift. Thank you.
Was great connecting with
so many!*

*God's Blessings
with love, hugs,
and prayers.
Peggy*

*Your thoughtfulness
means so much! 😊*





Worship in the Park and Picnic

You are invited to join us!

Sunday, August 10th

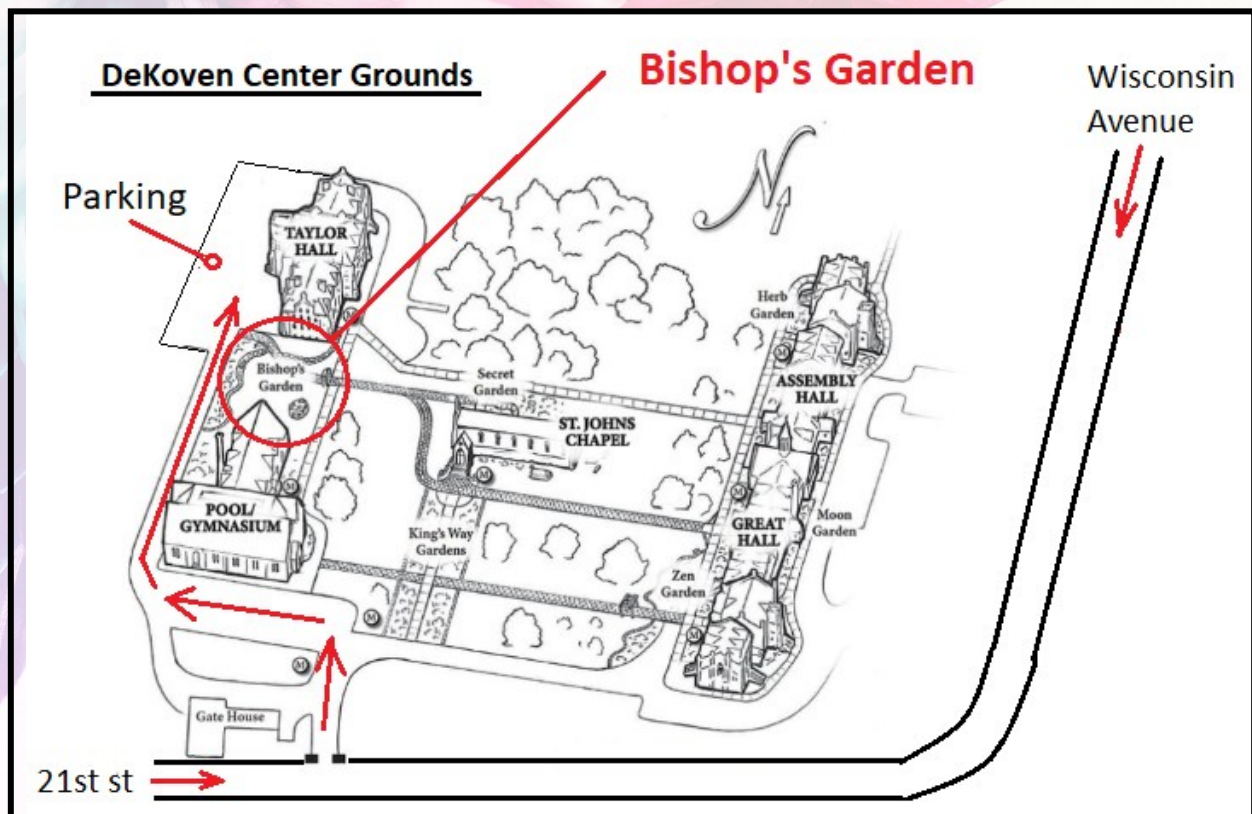
Worship will begin at 10:00^{AM}

Picnic will be directly after worship

DeKoven Bishop's Garden (see map below)

2000 Wisconsin Avenue, Racine

The Deacons will be hosting the picnic. Please bring
a dish to share and your lawn chairs!



Mission Initiative

One Great Hour of Sharing/Hand of Hope Campaign Results

Thanks to the wonderful generosity of this congregation, we raised \$4,840.00 in our 2025 OGHS/HOH campaign. Each of the four recipient organizations—HOPES Center of Racine, 2nd Judicial District Veterans Treatment Court, Restoration Ministries, One Great Hour of Sharing- Presbyterian Disaster Assistance received \$1,210.00 and we have received beautiful notes of deep appreciation for our support. Thank you to all who participated in this valuable Mission outreach.

First Presbyterian Food Pantry

The need for food in our community is constant and growing. Thanks to an amazing group of volunteers, we are able to provide a valuable lifeline to individuals in our neighborhood who are struggling with food insecurity. Donations of non-perishable food items are appreciated as well as monetary donations made out to First Presbyterian Church with the notation "First Pres Food Pantry."

If you have fresh garden produce that you would like to share, please bring it to the Church on Wednesday prior to 3:00^{PM} and we will distribute it to the food recipients. Please keep those struggling in our community in your prayers.

With peace and gratitude,

Meg Daniels and Georgia Herrera
on behalf of the Mission Initiatives Committee

A Private Tour

On Sunday July 6, 2025, Dave Holle had a private tour of the lighthouse. His volunteer tour guide was Ben Neal.



Shelley's Inside-Out German Chocolate Cake

Ingredients—

Cake batter:

- 1 box cake mix, German chocolate
- 1 1/4 c. water
- 1/3 c. vegetable oil
- 3 large eggs
- 1 can coconut pecan frosting

Options for topping:

- ◇ Powdered sugar or
- ◇ 1 can chocolate frosting and toasted coconut

Instructions—

- ◆ Preheat oven to 350 degrees.
- ◆ On low speed, blend together cake batter ingredients—until moistened. Beat at medium speed for two minutes. Pour into prepared bundt pan.
- ◆ Bake for approximately 50-60 or until toothpick inserted in center comes out clean.
- ◆ Cool in pan on wire rack for 15 minutes. Remove from pan and let cool completely.
- ◆ At this point you can dust it with powdered sugar. Or, you can drizzle it with the chocolate frosting (gently heated in the microwave) and then "dust" it with toasted coconut.
- ◆ Enjoy!



Artists Gallery Comes To First Pres

The **Music & Art Initiative** announces a new pop-up exhibit in the First Pres Chapel Gallery. The Artists Gallery, located in downtown Racine, has hung paintings, sculpture, and ceramics by local artists. On your way to church or Music & More or during coffee hour, drop in and view the art. See below for information regarding how to purchase the pieces.



ARTISTS GALLERY

Presents a
POP-UP EXHIBITION
at First Presbyterian Church

July 3 - Aug 17

Support Local Artists

Reach out to Artists Gallery to make purchases:
Call 262-635-9332 or email: ArtistsGalleryRacine@outlook.com
Visit us at 401 Main St. | Downtown Racine

Music & MORE

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Nancy Maio & Friends



Lynda Schlitz Ensemble

Have you attended a Music & More concert this summer? We have been celebrating our 32nd Season and have welcomed 12 new acts to the series. We've been entertained by excellent vocalists and instrumentalists performing solo and in duets, trios, quartets, and larger groups. We've heard trumpets, flugelhorn, flutes of all sizes, violin, oboes, bassoon, accordion, cello, hammered dulcimers, bands, ukulele, guitars, bass, drums, and piano.

Our concerts are eclectic, fast-paced, and fun! All noontime concerts are free; donations are encouraged and will be divided at the Season Finale between Health Care Network and the Racine Literacy Council. The Music & More program is funded by donations from individuals and businesses. Your financial support makes it possible for us to continue offering this unique series of music and community outreach. Donations are appreciated at any time of the year. Your check can be sent to First Presbyterian Church, for Music & More. Or, it's easy to donate securely online, thru PayPal, using a credit card at firstpresracine.org/donate. Donations may be given IN HONOR or IN MEMORY of someone, or to mark a special occasion. Thank you!

Mark your calendars for the one remaining noontime concert, and the Season Finale Concert which will be held on Friday, August 15 at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are on sale now - \$15. Please note a change to the first act. Unfortunately, the mariachi band had to cancel their performance. They will be replaced by Nancy Maio & Friends.

AUGUST 7 @ 12:00^{PM}

Mary Skop – piano

Jesse Gomez – violin

Ami Bouterse, Alejandro Alumbrosos,

Evelyn Alumbrosos & Lucas Alumbrosos – vocal & piano

SEASON FINALE CONCERT—FRIDAY, AUGUST 15 @ 7:00^{PM}

Tickets \$15

Nancy Maio & Friends

Lynda Schlitz Ensemble

BONUS CONCERT—FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12 @ 7:00^{PM}

Tickets \$15

Zachary Scot Johnson & Friends

Celebrating Zach's new CD, Echoes



The Moment | © Margaret Atwood

The moment when, after many years
of hard work and a long voyage
you stand in the centre of your room,
house, half-acre, square mile, island, country,
knowing at last how you got there,
and say, I own this,
is the same moment when the trees unloose
their soft arms from around you,
the birds take back their language,
the cliffs fissure and collapse,
the air moves back from you like a wave
and you can't breathe.
No, they whisper. You own nothing.
You were a visitor, time after time
climbing the hill, planting the flag, proclaiming.
We never belonged to you.
You never found us.
It was always the other way round.

