The Prairie Press

April, 2026

Volume 18, No. 8

New Members Join Our Church During Worship On Feb. 22

by Chris Stried

After completing membership classes and meeting with the members of the Session, two new members joined the congregation of Rock Prairie Presbyterian Church during Worship on Feb. 22.

Mary Granger and Mary Ellen Aherns declared their belief in God and their intent to follow the teachings of Jesus in a ceremony conducted by Rev. Bruce, with the assistance of Sharon Krohn, who is the Clerk of Session.

Mary Granger

Mary, who is Char Behling's sister, was born in Nebraska but moved to Janesville with her family when she was seven years old.

She currently resides at Cedar Crest, where she has lived for two years.

Mary, whose father was originally from Janesville, is the oldest of three children. She and Char have a younger brother, John.

Mary Granger

A graduate of Parker High School, Mary went on to study at UW-Eau Claire, where she earned both a bachelor's degree and a master's degree in nursing.

After getting her degrees, Mary lived and worked in Macomb IL for over 15 years. While living there, she worked at the Macomb Hospital as Director of Nursing.

She eventually went into the private healthcare sector and became

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Dancers Share Their Proud Culture, Entertain Audience

by Ann Williams

Our Fellowship Hall was alive with the sights and sounds of the Stoughton High School Norwegian Dancers on Sunday afternoon, Mar. 8.

Dressed in traditional regionally-specific folk costumes, the 17 dancers and five musicians, under the direction of Wendy Furseth (a former dance member) took great pride in sharing the rich traditions of Norway for the audience of over 80.

With Wendy's explanation, the group performed numerous intricate, daring, and humorous dances and festive music.

Up-close interactions between performers and audience members provided opportunities to see the "bunad" clothing and unique instruments in detail.

The idea for a Norwegian Dancer Group at Stoughton High School be-

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With the assistance of Session Clerk Sharon Krohn, Rev. Bruce welcomes new members Mary Granger (left) and Mary Ellen Ahrens into membership during Worship on Feb. 22.

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The Wonderful Promise Of Easter—'He Lives!'

by Rev. Bruce

On the first Sunday of April, we will celebrate Easter. More than baskets and bonnets, Easter stands at the center of our Christian faith.

Easter is more than a celebration of a past miracle; it's the heartbeat of present discipleship. The Risen Christ offers us hope, a new identity, and the power that shapes our daily life.

Our Reformed theology begins with God's initiative. God's grace comes before our response. God demonstrated the power of love and grace in the empty tomb.

In raising Jesus from the dead, God overturns every power that destroys life: sin, fear, violence, and death itself.

The Resurrection is not simply proof of Jesus' divinity; it is God's decisive "Yes" to the world God loves. For individual believers, this means faith is grounded not in personal achievement or spiritual strength, but in the living Christ who meets us with mercy and calls us into new life.

Because of Easter and the Resurrection, we may have union with Christ. God becomes accessible to us. In our Baptism, we are joined to His death and resurrection.

We confirm this with our own personal profession of faith. We are no longer defined by our failures, our limitations, or our brokenness.

We belong to Christ, the One Who Lives. The risen Christ claims us. This identity provides us with a quiet confidence, a steady trust that God's future is already breaking into the present.

For Presbyterians, Easter is not only a day but also a pattern of living,

The risen Christ calls believers to participate in God's ongoing work of renewal. This shapes daily discipleship in practical ways.

In this sense, Easter empowers ordinary faithfulness—acts of compassion, forgiveness, generosity, and truth-telling.

If you like, I can shape this into a bulletin-ready article, a newsletter piece, or a brief devotional reflection for Worship.

May you live each day as a Christian disciple honoring God by serving others.

Grace and Peace,

Rev. Bruce

How To Contact Us

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Pastor's Schedule

Rev Bruce will observe the Sabbath April 1, 10, 17. He will be on study leave April 23-30.

Preaching Schedule

Maundy Thursday, April 2, FPC @ 7 pm

Exodus 12:1-4, (5-10), 11-14; I Corinthians 11:23-26; *John 13:1-17; **John 13:31b-35; Psalm 116:1, 10-17.

Easter, April 5, Sunrise @ 8 am, Youth Group

Romans 6:3-11; Matthew 28:1-10; Psalm 114; *John 19:33-42; **John 20:1-18.

"What It Takes To Believe"

Easter, April 5, 10 am

Acts 10:34-43, or Jeremiah 31:1-6; Colossians 3:1-4, or Acts 10:34 -43; John 20:1-18, or *Matthew 28:1-10, Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; **Romans 6:3-11.

"To See Jesus"

2nd Sunday of Easter, April 12

Acts 2:14a, 22-32; **1Peter 1:3-9; *John 2-:19-31; Psalm 16.

"Hope Lives By Faith"

3rd Sunday of Easter, April 19

Acts 2:14a, 36-41; **1 Peter 1:17 -23; *Luke 24:13-35; Psalm 116:1 -3, 10-17.

"Foundation of Faith"

4th Sunday of Easter, April 26, Rick Janowicz

Acts 2:42-47; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10; Psalm 23.

"Sermon For The Fields"

Thank You For Giving To The Lord

April ushers in the joy of Easter and the power of resurrection. Jesus calls us to live by faith,

(Continued on page 5)

Letters To The Editor

Dear Editor:

Thank you so much for your donation of underwear, socks, hygiene items, pillows, silverware, plungers, snack foods and juice.

We so very much appreciate it!

Blessings,

Twin Oaks Shelter
Staff and Residents

Dear Editor:

As a CNA at Agrace, I'm grateful for partners like you whose continued support helps us care for patients and families with compassion and dignity.

Your partnership makes a meaningful difference for the people we serve.

With gratitude,

Maria CNA

Dear Editor:

On behalf of our Living Waters For The World staff in the U.S. and throughout our networks, thank you.

Because of your generosity, your time, and your commitment, clean water continues to flow in communities that once struggled simply to meet daily needs.

Whether you have supported this work through financial gifts, hands-on service, prayer, or advocacy last year, please know that your partnership truly matters.

With sincere thanks.

Steve Young,
Executive Director,
Living Waters
For The World

Meals On Wheels Volunteers Deliver Again

by Judy Jaggard

Thank you to all our wonderful Rock Prairie members and friends who willingly answered the call to deliver Meals on Wheels March 16-20 and March 23-27.

We did have a snow cancellation on March 16—we were all relieved.

Those people who helped with deliveries for our church included Lindi and Bob Paull, Chris and Ed Stried, Kay and Tom Ward, Karen and Richard Johnston, and Judy Jaggard and Hailey Osborne.

Judy and Hailey delivered both weeks!

Meals on Wheels volunteers Judy Jaggard and Hailey Osborne return delivery items to Mercy Hospital after distributing lunches.

It would be fantastic if we could increase our pool of volunteer drivers for the Meals on Wheels Program. We're continually looking for some new volunteers to carry on this wonderful tradition we have developed here at Rock Prairie.

If you think helping deliver meals might be something you would enjoy, speak with some of these people and keep an eye out for our next delivery dates.

Join us in this wonderful way we can continue our Rock Prairie mission within our community.

Letter Policy

The PRAIRIE PRESS welcomes letters from our members and friends.

We will print them all, as space permits.

Send or email or drop off your letter to the Church office,

attn: **The PRAIRIE PRESS**

The requested items for the Food Pantry Cart for April is Hamburger Helper.

Let's fill up the cart and help our less fortunate and struggling neighbors as we show God's love by sharing our own blessings.

April 2026

April 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

May 2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mar 29	30	31	Apr 1	2 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service @ First Presbyterian Church - downtown	3 12:00pm Easter Reflection RPPC Sanctuary open 12:00pm Good Friday Service @ First	4
5 8:00am Easter Sunrise Service in the Garden 9:00am Easter Breakfast 10:30am Easter Worship	6 CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	7 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Christian Ed Committee Meeing	8 6:30pm Outreach & Communication Committee Meeting	9 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	10 10:30am Prairie Pals	11 7:00pm Janesville Jets Hockey Outing
12 9:15am Adult School 9:15am Book Study 9:15am Children School 10:30am Worship Fall 11:45am Fellowship	13 3:00pm Finance Committee Meeting	14 9:30am Bible Study 3:00pm Building & Grounds Committee Meeting	15	16 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	17	18
19 9:15am Adult School 9:15am Book Study 9:15am Children School 10:30am Worship Fall Schedule	20	21 9:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Session Meets	22	23 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	24	25
26 9:15am Adult School 9:15am Book Study 9:15am Children School 10:30am Worship Fall 11:30am Souper Sunday	27	28 NO Bible Study Today	29	30 6:30pm Choir Rehearsal	May 1	2

3/24/2026 8:57 AM

Rev. Bruce . . . (Continued from page 2)

sharing God's love with others.

We give thanks to those who . . .

- Invited guests to the Norwegian Dancers;
- Helped "set the stage" for the performers by moving the tables and chairs in the Fellowship Hall; for the dance performance;
- Organized the trip to the Fireside concert;
- Developed the beautiful entryway bulletin board;
- Supported our mission to Twin Oaks;
- Brought pancake mix and syrup for the food pantries;
- Took items from the manse to resale shops or the dump;
- Reorganized our book collection in the Sonshine Room;
- Moved the Christmas trees to our second level storage areas;
- Cleaned out the Usher's Closet;
- Repaired chairs;
- Paid their Per Diem assessment;
- Provided soup for Souper Sunday and the Lenten Series;
- Attended Worship on Ash Wednesday.

We give thanks for those who live their faith with actions and service to Christ Jesus.

Per Capita Report

So far, **51 members** of 277 members, contributed **$2,365.50** towards Per Capita to support Christ's work of our unified ministry of the PCUSA.

Our 2026 Per Capita is $43.42 per active member. This contribution, which is above our regular pledges and offerings, supports our General Assembly (National), Synod (Upper Midwest Region), and our Presbytery of Milwaukee.

Per Capita supports Christ's work in the larger denomination and impacts ministry regionally and globally.

Tres Dias: 3 Days For Spiritual Renewal

Tres Dias, a three-day spiritual retreat for Christian leaders will happen at Army Lake Camp in East Troy.

Each of the two weekends begins Thursday evening and concludes Sunday afternoon.

Registration for each of the weekends is April 6.

Men's Weekend—April 16-19
Women's Weekend—April 23-26

If you are interested or want more information, contact Bruce or Krista.

Mary Granger . . . (Continued from page 1)

and became owner of two franchises called Comfort Keepers, which she managed and trained caregivers to work in people's homes. This service, which entailed helping the clients with their medications and daily needs, allowed them to stay in their homes or apartments rather than entering a care facility, which gave them lives that contained more personal freedom.

As a retiree, Mary says she enjoys reading biographies, history, and an occasional Harlequin novel. She also enjoys looking at genealogical ancestry and working on puzzles.

Mary first came to Rock Prairie Church because of Char, and has joined her as a choir member.

Mary says she loves the friendly people in our church and would like to get involved in some of the activities Rock Prairie offers, although that can be a problem because she does not drive any more.

Please make it a point to get to know Mary—show her some more of that Rock Prairie friendliness!

I was in Target. A toddler was on the floor, screaming. Kicking. Full melt down. People were staring. "Control your kid," a man muttered. The mom looked ready to collapse. She was flushed, sweating, trying to lift him. I walked over. I sat on the floor next to the screaming boy. I started singing "Baby Shark" quietly. The boy stopped screaming to look at the crazy old lady on the floor. The mom looked at me, shocked. "It's okay," I told her. "My son once licked a floor in a Walmart because I wouldn't buy him a cactus. We've all been there." She started laughing. Then she started crying. "I haven't slept in three days," she admitted. "You're doing a great job," I said. She helped her son up. "Thank you," she said. "For not staring." Be the village. Not the critic.

April Birthdays

Apr. 4 Ed Hale
Apr. 10 Karen VanTuyl
Apr. 13 Sandra Skaife
Apr. 14 Marge Knauer
Apr. 21 Carl Ahrens
Apr. 23 Sharon Krohn

Norwegian Dancers Share Their Heritage, Talents

gan in 1952-53 to promote good relations between the school and community—and to perform in Stoughton's newly-created Syttende Mai (Norwegian Constitution Day) Festival each May.

In 1953, the group started with six couples, two dances, and two spring performances. Since then, the dance group and its performances have evolved and expanded, and they have been ongoing without interruption for over 72 years!

Every year, numerous Stoughton students audition to fill openings in the group (that usually occur when seniors graduate.) Some who audition are seeking to follow in the footsteps of their parents, grandparents, and other relatives who performed in groups before them.

They are "passing the torch" from one person to another—and from one generation to another!

Dancers and musicians put in hours of rehearsal, sometimes beginning at 6:55 am. In addition to numerous performances in Wisconsin, they continue to tour extensively throughout the United States, Canada, and Norway, and they also participate in national folk festivals. To date, they have completed six tours of Norway.

A January 2026 post on their Facebook page states: "What our kids are part of is so much bigger than one person, one performance, or one tour.

"Because of the dedication and love for tradition shown by the original group, this legacy still lives on today. Because they were willing to be first, generations of dancers have been able to travel, perform, build life-long friendships, and proudly share Norwegian culture with communities near and far.

"We are so grateful for those that came before us. Your footsteps made the path, and the dancers are proud to follow it.

"It's about honoring the past, celebrating the present, and protecting this beautiful legacy for the future."

Thanks to the loving and generous free-will offering given by the RPPC audience, these young people will continue out into the world, making a positive impact!

The Stoughton High School
Norwegian Dancers

'Mouse' Comes Out Of Hiding, Says Good-Bye

by Ed Stried

This is a special installment of "The Church Mouse" column in The PRAIRIE PRESS.

For more than three decades, The Church Mouse appeared almost every month, offering information and wisdom, often presented in clever or unusual ways.

It always gave a reader something to think about. I've had people tell me that the first thing they turn to when they get their issue is "The Church Mouse," which recently has been placed on the back page.

When I began my tenure as the editor of this publication 18 years ago, I wasn't sure who I should contact about the Church Mouse column continuing.

That's because there was a certain mystique about the author. In fact, it may well be that some long-time readers will be hearing for the first time that Jan Marquis has been the Mouse for all of these years.

In recent years, she has been joined in this effort by her husband, Earl. They have informed me, because of health issues, that the March, 2026, Mouse column would be their last.

So I would like to take this opportunity to tell you a little bit about this impressive demonstration of faithfulness from two people that we have all benefitted from over all these years.

While the first issues of The PRAIRIE PRESS date back to the early 1980's, they came out on an irregular basis, and there were no articles labeled "The Church Mouse."

Shirl Scharine, who joined Rock Prairie Church about the same time as Jan and Earl did, was one of the early members of the small group of people (Jan, Carol Sauer, and Char and Dave Behling, among others) who should be given credit for establishing and growing the publication.

Shirl, who is listed on those early issues as "Publisher," of course knew who the author of the column was, and she certainly appreciated the Mouse's contributions to the publication.

In perhaps an illustration of the secret identity of the Mouse that was carried on for so many years, Shirl wrote, thinking back over the years, "The life expectancy of a house mouse can be up to five years (if nothing unforeseen happens.)

"However a Church Mouse can live much longer if conditions are right. Rock Prairie Church seems to have just the right vibe for our friend, as he/she has stuck around for a long time!

Earl and Jan Marquis

"Our Church Mouse is extremely knowledgeable about things of our world and our church!

"I've learned over the years how kind and thoughtful our Mouse's advice is. It has been my pleasure to know this cheerful 'rodent' for so many years.

"I do wonder, though, what can our Church Mouse's name be? I would suggest JAN, as that can be either a male or female name.

"What do you think?" Shirl concluded with a wry smile.

I did a little research into the early issues of The PRAIRIE PRESS. The Church Mouse first appeared in the December 1989 issue. It was not titled, but it was signed "The Church Mouse."

Over the following 36 years, The Church Mouse column appeared over 250 times. Some of my favorites were entitled "The Church Mouse Sees Everything," "A Newborn's Conversation With God," and "Christmas In Heaven."

Recalling the first years, Jan said, "The early columns were written out by hand or typed and turned in to our typist for placement.

"Over the years, however, we had to learn how to use a computer and a cell phone to find and send in the column. Earl was a big help to me with technology, and he also found many of the articles that appeared."

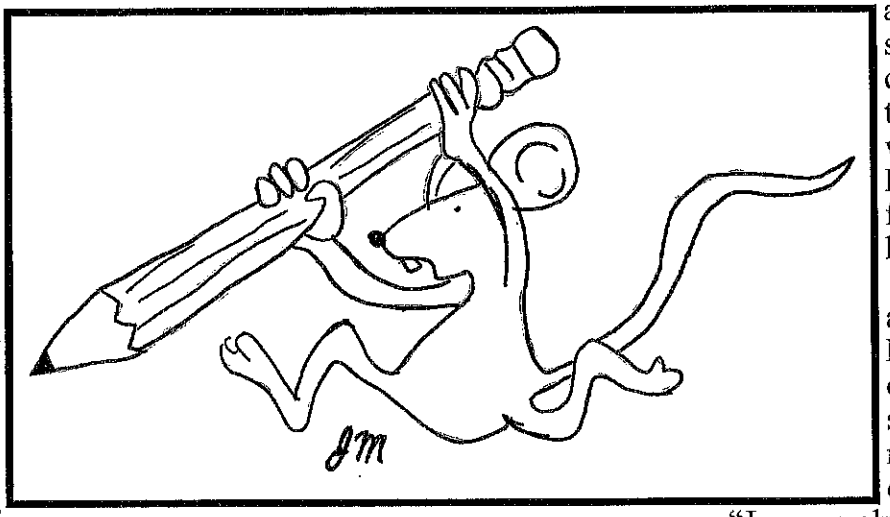
Earl recalls that someone suggested that the column needed a name. As Earl was sitting in church one Sunday morning in our old Sanctuary, he looked to the top of the molded wood above the chancel area in

(Continued on next page)

Jan and Earl Marquis . . . (Continued from previous page)

the front of the church, and he saw a carving that reminded him of a mouse. Hence, the title "The Church Mouse" was born.

Jan and Earl joined our church in March of 1985, and they both got involved in the activities and missions of the church right away. While one of those volunteer activities was joining the staff of The PRAIRIE PRESS, Jan was also a long-time Sunday School teacher, organized the "Christmas Child" mission project for many years, volunteered on the "Coats For Kids" mission, was a long-time member of the Sunset Circle, regularly lead "Kid's Kirks" during Worship, is a regular member of Prairie Pals, and served as a leader in the Presbyterian Women.



Earl, who for years has brewed coffee for early arrivers prior to Sunday Worship services, was a member of the Pastor Nominating Committee twice (one time serving as Chair), participated in many Crop Walks, contributed articles to The PRAIRIE PRESS, and organized a mission which involved collecting and cashing in donated tin cans and sending the money to the Living Waters For The World mission.

Together, Jan and Earl were choir members for decades, sang in many Patriotic Concerts, provided special music several times during the summer months, served faithfully as both Elders and Deacons (at various times), went on many Crop Walks, served together as Deacons, helped on the PRAIRIE PRESS mailing committee, and worked on several HOPE Mission trips to areas devastated by natural disasters.

They also raised their three children—Tim, Vicki, and Mark (as well as Mark's daughter London)—in our church.

Bill Davis, a long-time member of RPC and good friend of Jan and Earl, said, "Who do you know who has done so many important things at Rock Prairie Church, such as volunteering for H.O.P.E. trips, always helped getting The PRAIRIE PRESS out on time, helped deliver food to the Milton Food Pantry, and headed the aluminum can mission committee?

"The answer is Earl Marquis!

"Earl has been the construction engineer on several H.O.P.E. trips as well as driving his SAG wagon in Milton food drives and C.R.O.P. Walks.

"Thanks, Earl, for all your years of service at Rock Prairie!"

Bill's wife Jackie also has known Jan and Earl for many years and worked with them regularly.

Jackie recalled, "From 1991, from Door County to Stronghold to Lutherdale, the women of Rock Prairie held weekend retreats once a year.

"Jan Marquis was one of the most faithful and enthusiastic participants. She often led devotions and helped all of us to focus and grow in our faith.

"Jan also loved to play games. Her laughter entertained all of us and brought sunshine into each heart," Jackie added.

Char Behling got to know Jan and Earl soon after she became the church office secretary in 1986 and worked on The PRAIRIE PRESS for many years with her husband Dave.

She said, "Jan created the Church Mouse column for our publication, and she has given us all many words of wisdom over the years.

"Jan was always willing to lend a helping hand for any of Rock Prairie's events, and she and Earl attended almost all services and events at the church," she added.

So, these two generous members of our congregation have done a great deal to enhance the ministry of our church for a long time, in addition to their contributions as The Church Mouse. But it is in that role that we celebrate them on this end-of-an-era moment.

Therefore, on behalf of all the readers of The PRAIRIE PRESS over all these years, I'd like to offer a big **THANK YOU** to Jan and Earl for being so dedicated and dependable in giving us something to think about and, often, smile about every month.

Whoever takes over this column will have some "small" shoes to fill—and a big pencil to carry around!

An Act Of Generosity Can Make All The Difference

Last Friday night, my children watched a man with a badge and a gun sit cross-legged on a motel floor, quietly talking my husband through a rising tide of panic.

That wasn't how the night was supposed to go.

We had been traveling for over nine hours. My husband, David, is a disabled veteran. For him, crowded spaces and unpredictable noises aren't just annoying—they are triggers. He pushes through the exhaustion for us, but long hauls are a heavy toll.

With us are our three children—Ava, 12; Leo, 8; and our ten-month-old baby boy; and Luna, David's service dog.

Luna isn't a pet. She is medical equipment in fur. She is trained to alert him to rising cortisol levels, to provide a "deep pressure therapy" when he starts to disassociate, and to act as a living anchor when the world starts to feel like a battlefield again.

We had booked a room weeks in advance at a well-known chain off the highway. When we walked into the lobby, I saw the clerk's eyes glaze lock onto Luna's harness.

"No pets allowed," she said. Flatly.

"She's a service animal," I explained, placing the reservation and David's credentials on the counter

"He's a veteran. We have the legal documentation right here."

The clerk didn't even look at the papers. She pushed them back toward me. "Our policy is strictly no animals. I can't change the rules."

Beside me, I felt David starting to fracture. His jaw was locked, his eyes were darting, and his breathing became shallow and jagged. Luna sensed it instantly, pressing her weight firmly against his leg to ground him.

"We've been on he road all day, I said, my voice rising with desperation. "He can't drive any further. This isn't an animal; this is his healthcare."

The clerk looked more overwhelmed than mean-spirited. "If I let you stay, I could lose my job," she whispered.

My hands began to tremble. My kids were watching us. My baby was starting to fuss. My eight-year-old tugged on my sleeve and asked, "Mom, do we have to sleep in the parking lot?"

That's when I made a choice I never thought I'd have to make. I stepped away and called the local non-emergency dispatch line.

"I don't want to cause a scene," I told the operator. "But my husband is a disabled vet in the middle of a crisis. We have a legal right to this room, and we're being turned away. We just need someone to help us."

Officer Miller

Ten minutes later, a police officer walked through the glass doors. His name tag read MILLER.

He didn't come in with a hand on his belt or a loud voice. He didn't treat us like a disturbance. He walked straight to David, knelt down so they were at the same level, and looked at Luna.

"She's a beautiful dog," Officer Miller said softly. "What's her name?"

"Luna," David managed to choke out.

"Well, Luna looks like she's doing a great job," the officer said. "You want to tell me a little bit about what she does for you?"

Right there on the lobby floor, my husband—a man who rarely speaks of his time overseas—began to explain in quiet, halting words how Luna keeps the shadows at bay. Officer Miller listened with a kind of focused intensity, as if David was the only person in the world.

Only after David's breathing slowed did the officer stand up and approach the desk. His tone remained calm and professional.

"Ma'am," he said to the clerk, "under federal law, specifically the ADA, individuals with disabilities have the right to be accompanied by their service animals in all public accommodations. That includes this hotel. Turning them away isn't just a policy issue; it's a legal violation."

(Continued on the next page)

An Act Of Generosity . . .

(Continued from the nprevious page)

He didn't scold her. He didn't humiliate her. He simply educated her.

The clerk called her manager. There were hushed apologies and claims of "insufficient training." Suddenly, a room was available.

More Than a Badge

But here is what stayed with me. Officer Miller didn't just leave once he saw the law was satisfied.

He stayed with us while we unloaded our bags, talking to David about his unit and his transition home. He didn't give a grand speech; he just offered my husband a quiet, "I'm glad you're back with us, brother."

When I finally broke down in tears of relief, he looked at me and said, "You did the right thing. You advocated for your family. That's what strength looks like."

When the baby reached out for him, he laughed and tucked his hat under his arm, gently bouncing the baby on his hip until the crying turned into giggles.

My twelve-year-old, who has seen so much cynicism on social media, whispered to me, "Mom, I didn't know they were allowed to be that nice."

Officer Miller joked with Leo about his dinosaur t-shirt. "You know," he told him, "the biggest heroes don't usually wear capes. Sometimes they have four legs and a cold nose." He gave Luna a quick scratch behind the ears as he said it.

In a world where we spend so much time shouting about who is right and who is wrong, this man chose a different path: he chose to be the bridge. He used his authority not to intimidate, but to heal.

He didn't just enforce a statute; he restored my husband's dignity when he felt most vulnerable. He showed my children that power, when used correctly, is synonymous with compassion.

So, to office Miller:

THANK YOU

Thank you for seeing a human being in distress rather than a "call to clear." Thank you for staying long after the paperwork was finished. Thank you for being a person who stood between a family's breaking point and the first full breath they'd taken in hours.

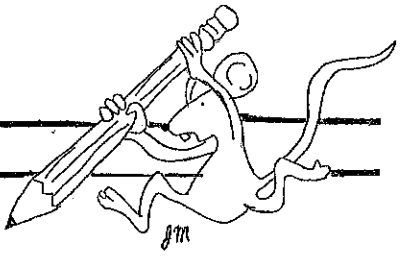
Bad news travels fast, but goodness like this deserves to go further.

If you carry a badge, wear a uniform (or even just wear a name tag), remember: You might be the only thing standing between a stranger's worst night and a moment of grace.

Alzheimer's Poem

Do not ask me to remember
Do not try to make me
understand
Let me rest and know you're
with me
Kiss my cheek and hold
my hand
I'm confused beyond
your concept
I am sad and sick and lost
All I know is that I need you
to be with me at all cost
Do not lose patience with me
Do not scold or curse or cry
I can't help the way
I am acting
I can't be different,
though I try
Just remember that I need you,
now more than ever
Know that the best of me
is gone
Please don't fail to stand
beside me
Love me until my life is done

The members of the Worship Committee created a beautiful Lenten scene on the Chancel to usher in the coming of Easter.



The Church Mouse

Dear Friends,

Last month, you may remember that The Church Mouse column, which usually appears here on page 12, ended with this:

Good bye—and thanks!

—The Church Mouse

The reason for that good-bye is that that final column represented the end of an era at our church. The person who has been the PRAIRIE PRESS "Mouse" for over three decades is hanging up her sharpened pencil and passing the responsibility over to a new Mouse.

I received the following email recently clarifying that transformation:

Dear Ed: If you have someone in your back pocket who would enjoy doing "The Mouse," we will relinquish the position. Jan does not do the computer thing any more, and I don't know just where God has set my future.
It has been an enjoyment for Jan doing the articles, but times do have a way of changing.
Thanks—it was great working with you.

Bless you,

Earl and Jan

(Continued on page 8)

Rock Prairie Presbyterian Church
8605 E County Road A
Janesville WI 53546

Please deliver by March 27, 2026
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