



# Winnebago Presbytery News & Notes

March 6, 2026



## *Presbytery News*

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

In God's hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are His also.

The sea is God's, for He made it, and God's hands formed the dry land.

Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

We are the people of God's pasture, and the sheep of His hand.

Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah, as on the day at Massah in the wilderness.

-Psalm 95:1-8

### **Mark Your Calendars for our next PRESBYTERY MEETING**



Thursday, April 30, 2026,  
at 10:00 a.m. — Hybrid  
meeting hosted at  
Appleton Memorial  
Presbyterian Church.

### **2026 Leadership Retreat – “The Sailboat Church”**

Forest Larger Parish Lakewood is pleased to invite you to their 2026 Leadership Retreat on Saturday, March 28, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The theme, The Sailboat Church, is inspired by the book of the same name by Joan Gray. Throughout the day, we will explore what it means to let the Holy Spirit guide and empower your congregations—learning how to discern where God is leading and how to faithfully respond together.

The retreat will include:

- Boundary Training that fulfills PC(USA) requirements
- Breakout sessions for Elders, Deacons, and Clerks
- Time for conversation and shared learning
- A closing worship service

- Lunch and snacks!

This retreat is open to all church leaders, as well as members who feel called to grow in leadership—even if they are not currently serving in an official role.

Forest Larger Parish Lakewood is also happy to share that several neighboring congregations have already committed to joining them for this day of fellowship and growth, including Athelstane, Wausaukee, Menominee, Pioneer (Marinette), and Oconto. We look forward to learning and worshipping together.

There is no cost to attend, but reservations are required. To register, please contact the Forest Larger Parish Lakewood office at 715-473-3603, Lori Brooks at 715-618-2219, or Suzanne Bell at 715-850-2488.

**We hope you will join them for this meaningful time of renewal, connection, and shared ministry.**

### **Reminder: Winnebago Presbytery Small Church Grant Available**

Congregations in Winnebago Presbytery are reminded that the Small Church Grant program is available to help support the care and maintenance of church buildings. This grant is designed to assist smaller congregations with important facility needs so that their spaces can continue to serve their ministries and communities.

Congregations with an average weekly worship attendance of fewer than 100 people are eligible to apply. Grant funds are specifically intended to help maintain church buildings. To be considered, congregations must have their per capita fully paid, and priority will be given to churches that have not recently received funding from this grant program.

Applications for the Small Church Grant are available on the [Winnebago Presbytery website](#). Congregations that believe they may benefit from this opportunity are encouraged to review the application and apply.

### **2026 Synod School—July 26-31 at Buena Vista University, Storm Lake, IA**

Summer is just around the corner, and we are excited for Synod School 2026. Synod of Lakes & Prairies has provided a full schedule of great programming for all ages. The [Synod School catalog is now online](#) for your review.

The intergenerational atmosphere of Synod School offers excellent programs for children and youth in mission, study, and fellowship. High-quality childcare for infants and toddlers is offered as well. \$60 scholarships for the first 72 first-time registrants are available, as well as additional Synod School scholarships. See the Synod School catalog for details.

**Registration opens Wednesday, April 1, 2026.**

Winnebago Presbytery encourages everyone who feels called to attend Synod School to do so. If financial assistance is needed, participants are first encouraged to check with their local church. In addition, scholarships are available to youth and adult members of Winnebago Presbytery for any Presbyterian camp, including Pilgrim Center and Moon Beach. Please visit our [website](#) to access the scholarship application under the tab Resources - Grants and Scholarships - Summer Camp Scholarship Application Form or [click here](#).

## Model Train Show

First Presbyterian Church Fond du Lac will host its **Annual Model Train Show** on Saturday, April 11, (10:00 a.m. thru 4:00 p.m.), and Sunday, April 12, (9:00 a.m. through 2:00 p.m.), in their Fellowship Hall, 1225 Fourth Street Road, Fond du Lac. This event is open to the public and will feature operating train layouts of assorted gauges, including a special CN layout open house on April 11. Food will be available through the Presbyterian Youth (supporting their activities), and kids can enjoy a fun railroad-themed photo opportunity. Come check it out!

First Presbyterian Annual

# MODEL TRAIN SHOW

First Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall  
1225 Fourth Street Road, Fond du Lac, Wisconsin  
**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Saturday, April 11, 2026  
10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Sunday, April 12, 2026  
9:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Come and see operating layouts of assorted Gauges Also  
April 11th an **OPEN HOUSE** you can see a CN train layout  
10:00AM to 2:00PM 179 GUINDON BLVD, FOND DU LAC

Food provided by the  
Presbyterian Youth To help  
finance their activities

**KIDS**  
GET YOUR PICTURE TAKEN  
IN OUR RAILROAD CUT-OUT

The Fond du Lac Society of Model Railroad Hobbyists Will have their HO Gauge layout that travels To shows in Madison and Milwaukee COME AND ASK QUESTIONS AND GET SOME IDEAS



# Radiate Hope

Registration is now open for Samaritan Counseling's Radiate Hope, an inspiring community event supporting mental health care across Northeast Wisconsin. Radiate Hope brings together community leaders, business partners, faith communities, and friends who believe no one should face life's hardest seasons alone. The evening celebrates the life-changing work happening through Samaritan while inviting the community to invest in expanding access to compassionate, professional mental health care.

Every day, individuals and families come to Samaritan seeking help for anxiety, depression, trauma, grief, addiction, and overwhelming stress. Many are low-income, uninsured, or unsure where to turn for support. Proceeds from Radiate Hope help fund professional outpatient counseling, the Samaritan Wellness Screen that identifies mental health needs in students, Mental Health Ministry that equips faith communities to respond with care, and community education and prevention programs.

Guests will enjoy appetizers, cocktails, and dessert sponsored by Whisk & Arrow, along with live music, interactive games, powerful stories of impact, and the Seven Wonders of Wisconsin live auction. Most importantly, the evening is an opportunity to support life-giving mental health services in our region. To register, visit the [Radiate Hope event page](#) and reserve your ticket today.



## Pride Family Camp

June 10-14, 2026

An opportunity to enjoy the camp environment with diverse people of all ages from the LGBTQ+ community. Emphasis will be on fun and creating new friendships, with ample time to play, create, and explore through leisure activities. Facilitated group discussions on issues relevant to the LGBTQ+ community will be offered to those interested. Families and singles welcome! All gender identities and sexual orientations will be celebrated. People of all faiths as well as no faith affiliation or spiritual beliefs are welcome.

Campers may choose a 5-day (June 10-14) or 3-day (June 12-14) option.

Visit the [United Church of Camps Moon Beach website](#) for details and to register!

Winnebago Presbytery encourages everyone who feels called to attend church camp to do so. If financial assistance is needed, participants are first encouraged to check with their local church. In addition, scholarships are available to youth and adult members of Winnebago Presbytery for any Presbyterian camp, including Pilgrim Center and Moon Beach. Please visit our [website](#) to access the scholarship application under the tab Resources - Grants and Scholarships - Summer Camp Scholarship Application Form or [click here](#).



## Palm Sunday Path

The Palm Sunday Path is a growing movement of church leaders who have decided that now is the time for Christians to stand up to rising authoritarianism and white Christian nationalism in a new way. Palm Sunday places before us a lasting contrast. Jesus enters Jerusalem not through force or spectacle, but in humility and mercy—exposing the limits of power built on fear and domination. Matthew tells us that when Jesus entered the city, the whole city was shaken. Not by an army, but by truth. The Palm Sunday Path is anchored by the Matthew 25 values of feeding the hungry, healing the sick, and welcoming the stranger, and envisions actions of tens of thousands of Christians across multiple states on Palm Sunday, March 28, 2026, afternoon.



Palm Sunday Path groups are forming around the state in Appleton, Eau Claire, Janesville, Oshkosh, Madisn, Milwaukee, Mount Horeb, Wales, and more. The Wisconsin Council of Churches invites you to take part in this important movement.



Use the below button to learn more about an existing Palm Sunday Path group or for more information about forming a new group.

[Learn More About Palm Sunday Path 2026](#)

### **St. Norbert College presents the 2025–26 Pilgrim Forum Lectures**

*The Joyful Mysteries: The Visitation* will be presented by Mary Healy, professor of Scripture at Sacred Heart Major Seminary, on Tuesday, April 28, 2026, from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. (doors open at 7:00 a.m.) in the Hendricks Dining Room of the F.K. Bemis International Center.

The event is free and open to the public, and a continental breakfast will be served. Registration is required by April 20 by visiting the [St. Norbert College website](#) or calling 920-403-4034.

### **Summer Sabbatical Study Sampler**

May 18–22, 2026 | *University of Dubuque Theological Seminary* | Dubuque, IA

You serve faithfully and sacrificially, let UDTS serve you. Join us for five restorative days of learning, worship, rest, and renewal designed especially for ministry leaders.

#### **The Summer Sabbatical Study Sampler includes**

- DMin cohort lectures and discussions
- Daily Chapel Services
- Lunch with faculty exploring current research
- Plentiful free time to pursue your own studies, rest and renew and explore all that Dubuque has to offer

Cost: \$350 (\$300 early bird by April 1). Registration includes the program and four lunches. Housing options are available.

Learn more and register: <https://forms.gle/rfLEK5k9aKyKLB4TA>

Questions: Rev. Dr. Tisha Brown | [tdbrown@dbq.edu](mailto:tdbrown@dbq.edu)



## **Congregational News**

**First Presbyterian Church - Fond du Lac**

*Seeking Part-Time Music & Worship Coordinator*

First Presbyterian Church of Fond du Lac WI is seeking to hire a person to join our staff to humbly nurture the spiritual life of the congregation through music and worship ministry. This is a part-time hourly position, averaging about 25 hours per week. A full job description is available on our church website [www.fpcfdl.org](http://www.fpcfdl.org).



Check out FPC FDL's new website: [www.fpcfdl.org](http://www.fpcfdl.org)!

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## Denominational News

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### Persevering Toward Wholeness

Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, The Rev. Jihyun Oh, gives insight into the decision to make the theme of the 227th General Assembly "Persevering Toward Wholeness." [Listen to her thoughts](#) on how this fits for the church in this particular time and place and how the specific word choices connect us to the larger church globally.

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## Partner Links

Presbyterian  
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Prairies

Wisconsin Council  
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Prairies  
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# Resources

Employment Opportunities



Winnebago Presbytery | 181 E. North Water St. Ste. 207 | Neenah, WI 54956 US

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