



Winnebago Presbytery News & Notes

June 19, 2026



Presbytery News

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

-Psalm 19:14

Why Nominations Matter

At our recent presbytery meeting, we were reminded of the important work being done throughout our presbytery. We heard reports of committees supporting congregations, caring for leaders and vulnerable adults, strengthening ministry, and helping bring new vitality to our churches. None of this happens by accident. It happens because faithful people are willing to share their gifts and serve.

The importance of the presbytery is not always obvious when we are focused on the ministries of our own congregations. Yet the work of the presbytery touches every church in our region. Together, we share wisdom, resources, and responsibility. We support one another and make decisions for the good of the whole church.

As Presbyterians, we sometimes joke about our love of committees. But committees are more than organizational structures. They are one of the ways we live out our belief in shared leadership and collective discernment. Through committees, decisions are shaped by prayer, conversation, and a variety of voices rather than resting with a single individual.

The Nominating Committee is currently seeking individuals to fill open positions, including Vice Moderator and a seat on the Commission on Ministry. We will also soon begin identifying leaders for service in 2027. This work is not about filling vacancies; it is about recognizing gifts and inviting people to use those gifts in service to the wider church.

Pastors and church leaders play a critical role in this process. You know the people in your congregations who bring wisdom, compassion, commitment, and leadership. We encourage you to help us identify individuals who may be called to serve.

The leaders we need are very likely already among us. They simply need to be invited. Please contact [Rachel Wann](#) or [Steve Bork](#) if you know of interested candidates.

Getting More Out of Winnebago Presbytery:

Why In-Person Meeting Participation Matters

When many people think of Presbytery meetings, they picture reports, motions, and business. While those things are certainly part of our work together, they are only a small piece of what Winnebago Presbytery offers.

One of the best ways to strengthen your connection to the larger church is by attending our quarterly Presbytery meetings in person. These gatherings provide opportunities to meet and build relationships with pastors, elders, and church leaders from across the Presbytery. They remind us that our congregations are part of something larger than ourselves and that we share in ministry together.

In-person meetings also offer a chance to learn from one another. Whether through worship, presentations, discussions, or simply conversations over lunch, participants often leave with new ideas, fresh perspectives, and encouragement for their own ministry settings. Many have discovered resources, partnerships, and support they may never have found otherwise.

Attending a Presbytery meeting can also help you better understand the work being done on behalf of our congregations. From leadership development and congregational support to mission initiatives and denominational connections, the Presbytery is actively working to equip and strengthen local churches throughout our region.

As virtual participation has become more common, it can be easy to choose the convenience of joining from home or the office. While we are grateful that technology allows us to stay connected, there is something uniquely valuable about gathering together in person. The conversations before and after meetings, shared meals, worship, and opportunities to connect with colleagues and friends are difficult to replicate through a screen. When your schedule allows, consider attending a quarterly meeting in person and experience the richness of being together as the body of Christ.

As General Presbyter Dave Colby often reminds us, "One of the greatest strengths of the Presbyterian Church is that we are connected to one another. Every time we gather as a Presbytery, we have the opportunity to learn, worship, discern, and serve together in ways that no congregation could do alone."

Together, we are stronger, wiser, and more faithful than we could ever be on our own.

Samaritan Counseling Offers Tips for Summer Self Care

As summer schedules begin to shift, you may be thinking about introducing some new routines or habits into this season. Research suggests that small actions can have a meaningful impact on our well-being. Want some ideas?

1. **Take a 10-Minute Walk** You don't need an hour at the gym to experience the mental health benefits of movement. Research has found that even a single 10-minute brisk walk can improve mood and reduce feelings of stress and fatigue. Whether it's around your neighborhood, during a lunch break, or after dinner, a short walk is a simple way to reset your mind.
2. **Spend 20 Minutes Outside** Nature is one of the most accessible wellness tools available to us. Studies have shown that spending just 20 minutes in a natural setting can lower stress hormone levels. Sit on your patio, take your dog for a walk, visit a park, or enjoy your morning coffee outdoors. Your nervous system will thank you.
3. **Write Down Three Things You're Grateful For** Gratitude isn't about ignoring life's challenges. It's about training our brains to notice what's going well alongside them.



Research has found that gratitude practices can improve overall mental health and reduce symptoms of anxiety and depression. Before bed tonight, write down three things you're thankful for, no matter how small.

United Church of Camps

There are moments when time slows down, moments of wonder, connection, and renewal. Outdoor ministry creates space for these sacred experiences by inviting people to step away from the demands of daily life and reconnect with God, one another, and the beauty of creation. Through camp programs, retreats, and gatherings, individuals and families can find rest, inspiration, and opportunities for spiritual growth in a welcoming environment.



United Church Camps, Inc. (UCCI) stewards three unique retreat destinations in Wisconsin: Cedar Valley, Daycholah Center, and Moon Beach. Guided by the mission to love God, all others, and the earth by providing sanctuary, practicing hospitality, and performing ministry, UCCI seeks to create spaces where all people feel cared for, valued, and at home. As an Open and Affirming organization, UCCI welcomes people of all ages, backgrounds, identities, and abilities and continues to expand accessibility so more individuals can experience the renewal that outdoor ministry provides.

With roots in Wisconsin church camping that stretch back more than 120 years, UCCI has been serving campers and retreat guests since its founding in 1967. Today, thousands of people each year participate in camps, retreats, workshops, and community events at its three beautiful sites. To learn more about United Church Camps, Inc. and explore upcoming camp and retreat opportunities, visit their [website](#).

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](#).

Kicking off a Summer of Youth Advocacy Opportunities

As we approach the beginning of summer, the WCC's youth engagement is gearing up. Over the past few years, summer break has been a time that youth from Wisconsin (and sometimes beyond) engage with the work of the Council.



WCC welcomes youth to Madison to learn about faith-based advocacy through Bible studies, interactive presentations, and visits with legislators. They will reflect on what it means to engage in the political process as people of faith and how their faith calls us to advocate for policies that protect the most vulnerable in our communities.

This summer, WCC staff will meet with youth across the state and they would love to have you join them:

July - [Serve Boldy Youth Trips](#)

August 11-13 Madison Youth Advocacy Days
August TBD - One-day Youth Immersion focused on Mutual Aid in Milwaukee
Other dates - Join WCC in Madison or have them come visit you!

Contact [Wisconsin Council of Churches](#) to learn more about these programs or to set up one of your own.



Congregational News

First Presbyterian Church - Marshfield

Seeking Part-Time Treasurer

FPC Marshfield is looking for someone with an accounting or bookkeeping background to join the FPC team as our part time Treasurer!

The position requires 15–20 hours per week with a flexible schedule. It also includes paid benefits, such as holidays, vacation, sick leave, and personal days. If you, or someone you know, is interested in working in a friendly, caring environment, please visit [Indeed](#) for more information and to apply.

The position could be ideal for some who may be retired, or who stays at home to care for family and needs flexibility in their schedule. More information about FPC and our missions can also be found on our [website](#).

Anyone interested can also contact Dan Burk at 573-291-0265 or via [email](#).

First Presbyterian Church - Wausau

Seeking Director of Music/Organist

First Presbyterian Church is seeking a gifted and collaborative Director of Music/Organist to help lead and shape our worship music ministry. We are looking for someone who is comfortable at the organ and piano, enjoys working with choirs and other musicians, and can partner with the pastor and worship leaders to support meaningful, vibrant worship. This position includes playing for Sunday worship and special services, directing vocal and handbell ensembles, coordinating special music, and helping care for the church's rich musical tradition while also imagining new possibilities.

A full job description is available on our website [MUSIC](#). Interested applicants are invited to review the position details and contact the church for more information or to apply.

First Presbyterian Church - Marshfield

Seeking Full-Time Solo Pastor

We have prioritized welcome for all people regardless of circumstance or station in life and are committed to service to the larger community and our world. We have a diverse and active group of lay leaders, and we welcome Pastor applicants who are inspired by Matthew 25 and a church which seeks to serve others. Please contact the Pastor Nominating Committee at pkfmfld@gmail.com or 715-897-4419. To learn more about who we are, visit our [website](#). To learn more about this opportunity [click here](#).



Denominational News

New free resource offers churches guidance in supporting immigrants

The six-part series offers scripture, PC(USA) policy context, discussion questions, prayer, and suggested action steps.

How can congregations serve their immigrant members and neighbors at such a precarious time?

This is the question facing many Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) churches today as they seek to walk alongside immigrants in their communities amidst heightened immigration crackdowns, arrests, and deportations. A new resource guide from Presbyterian Life & Witness, an agency of the PC(USA), offers some answers.

Read the [full article and receive the link](#) to the Practicing Welcome: Standing with Immigrants Prayer and Resource Guide.

Need Proof of Your Church's Tax-Exempt Status? PC(USA) Has a New Online Tool

If your congregation has ever needed to provide proof of its federal tax-exempt status for a grant application, bank account, vendor request, or other business purpose, obtaining the necessary documentation has become much easier.

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has launched a new online tool that allows congregations, presbyteries, and synods to generate their own customized federal tax-exempt inclusion letter in just a few minutes. Previously, organizations had to contact the PC(USA) Legal Office and wait for staff to process the request manually. The new system verifies the information automatically and generates the letter almost immediately.

To obtain a letter, you will need your congregation's Employer Identification Number (EIN) or PC(USA) Personal Identification Number (PIN). The inclusion letter serves as documentation that your church is covered under the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Group Ruling and qualifies for federal tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Churches and mid councils can access the online tool through the PC(USA) Tax Letters page: [PC\(USA\) Tax Letters Page and Online Inclusion Letter Tool](#)

This new resource provides a quick and convenient way to obtain documentation that many congregations need from time to time. If your church maintains records for grants, banking, property matters, or fundraising, consider bookmarking the page for future reference.

GA227 Begins Next Week

The 227th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) begins June 22, with online committee meetings June 22–24 and in-person plenary sessions in Milwaukee June

28–July 2. The Assembly theme, "Persevering Toward Wholeness," is inspired by Revelation 22:2 and will guide the church's work and discernment throughout the gathering. If you're interested in attending, on-site observer registration remains available in Milwaukee for those wishing to attend plenary sessions, although registration for ticketed events has closed.

If you're reading this, you likely already know many of the places to keep up with Assembly news. The [Presbyterian News Service](#) and the [Presbyterian Outlook](#) are excellent sources for updates, analysis, and stories from the Assembly. If you're really into the details, be sure to check out [MyGA](#), where you can follow committee work, reports, overtures, and Assembly business in real time.



Partner Links

Presbyterian
Church (U.S.A.)

Synod of Lakes &
Prairies

Wisconsin Council
of Churches

Presbyterian
Women (National)

Synod of Lakes &
Prairies
Presbyterian
Women

United Church
Camps, Inc.

Board of
Pensions

Samaritan
Counseling



Resources

Employment Opportunities



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

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!