



Winnebago Presbytery News & Notes

July 3, 2026



Presbytery News

“Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?” But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, “Whose head is this and whose title?” They answered, “Caesar’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s and to God the things that are God’s.” When they heard this, they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

-Matthew 22:16-22

Save the Date: September Presbytery Meeting

Mark your calendars! The next Winnebago Presbytery meeting will be held on Thursday, September 24, 2026, beginning at 10:00 a.m., at [First Presbyterian Church of Fond du Lac](#). This will be a hybrid meeting, with participation available both in person and via Zoom.

While we're grateful for the flexibility that Zoom provides, there's something special about gathering face-to-face—sharing conversation over coffee, worshipping together, and strengthening the relationships that connect us as a presbytery. If you're able, we encourage you to join us in Fond du Lac. If not, we look forward to welcoming you online.

This September's gathering will also include a special opportunity to honor Bob Boswell as he concludes his faithful service as Winnebago Presbytery's Stated Clerk. After many years of dedicated ministry, Bob will retire from the role effective July 31 to spend more time with his family. We are deeply grateful for his leadership, wisdom, and commitment to the work of the presbytery, and we hope you'll join us as we celebrate his ministry together. As the Personnel Committee begins the process of seeking the next Stated Clerk, Alyson Janke will serve as Acting Stated Clerk beginning August 1, ensuring a smooth transition while the position is filled.

Additional details, including registration information and the meeting docket, will be shared as the date approaches. We hope you'll plan to be part of this time of worship, fellowship, and the work we share together.

Belonging Matters for Everyone

We all want to feel like we belong. Yet according to the [2025 Tri-County Community Health Report](#), fewer than half of adults in our region report having a strong sense of community belonging. Researchers consistently find that belonging helps protect against loneliness, anxiety, depression, and other mental health challenges.



Belonging matters for everyone. No matter our age, background, identity, or life experience, we all thrive when we feel seen, supported, and connected. The good news is that belonging doesn't always require grand gestures. Often, it grows through small, intentional moments of connection.

Three Ways to Cultivate Belonging This Week

1. **Reach Out:** Think of someone you haven't connected with recently. Send a text, make a phone call, or invite them for coffee. A simple check-in can strengthen relationships and remind both of you that you're not alone.
2. **Find Your Community:** Belonging often grows when we share experiences with others. Consider attending a community event, joining a volunteer opportunity, participating in a faith community, or reconnecting with a group that brings you joy and purpose.
3. **Let Someone Know They Matter:** One of the simplest ways to create belonging is to help others feel valued. Offer encouragement, express gratitude, or acknowledge something you appreciate about a friend, coworker, family member, or neighbor. Your words may have a greater impact than you realize.

Outdoor Ministry: More Than Summer Camp

While summer camp may be what first comes to mind, the ministry of United Church Camps, Inc. (UCCI) continues throughout the year. Its three Wisconsin sites—Cedar Valley, Daycholah Center, and Moon Beach—welcome churches, families, nonprofit organizations, and community groups for retreats, conferences, leadership events, and personal renewal in every season.



Beyond providing beautiful places to gather, UCCI is committed to nurturing faith, building community, and caring for creation. Through intentional hospitality, environmental stewardship, and inclusive programming, UCCI offers spaces where people can deepen relationships, experience Sabbath rest, and encounter God in new ways. Whether you're planning a church retreat, looking for a family getaway, or seeking time for personal reflection, UCCI's ministries extend far beyond the traditional camp experience.

To learn more about year-round retreat opportunities, upcoming events, and the mission of United Church Camps, Inc., visit the [UCCI website](#), where you'll also find resources for congregations, retreat planners, and individuals looking to experience the gift of outdoor ministry.

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

Wisconsin Primary Elections are August 11th

Campaign signs are popping up in neighborhoods across the state as we move towards the fall elections. This year we are facing an August primary and a November election that includes highly contested congressional elections, state offices that could shift the control of the state capitol - including electing a new governor, constitutional amendments, and other local issues.



Many are concerned about the state of our democracy and the impacts that these elections have in our deeply polarized state and country. As people of faith, we are called to engage our communities with hope, integrity, and love for our neighbors. To learn more about the Wisconsin Council of Churches' Loving Your Neighbor in Election Season initiative and access bulletin inserts, prayer resources, and other election engagement tools, visit [the full article on the Wisconsin Council of Churches website](#). Whether you're looking for resources for your congregation or ways to become involved, you'll find a variety of materials to support faithful civic engagement.

Congregational News

First Presbyterian Church - Oconto

Seeking Part-Time Office Administrator

First Presbyterian Church of Oconto is seeking a part-time staff member to join its team for 15 hours per week on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. Salary is negotiable based on experience and qualifications. The church is looking for someone with advanced Microsoft Office skills, strong communication and organizational abilities, experience with newsletters and Facebook, a basic understanding of accounting (Church Windows preferred), and the ability to work independently as a self-starter. Those interested are invited to submit a letter of application and resume to Human Resources, First Presbyterian Church Oconto, 133 Jackson Street, Oconto, WI 54153.

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](#). 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](#).

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



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.

Looking Back at the 227th General Assembly

The 227th General Assembly (GA227) of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) concluded on July 2 after ten days of worship, discernment, debate, and fellowship in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Centered on the theme "Persevering Toward Wholeness," commissioners from across the denomination gathered to conduct the business of the church while seeking God's guidance for the future of the PC(USA).

Among the Assembly's first actions was the election of two new Co-Moderators: the Rev. Marta Pumroy-Cordero and the Rev. Dr. Kristopher D. Schondelmeyer. Elected on the first ballot, they will serve together in leading the denomination over the next two years, sharing responsibilities for worship, representation, and moderating the work of the church. [Learn more about Pumroy-Corder and Schondelmeyer.](#)

Commissioners also approved the denomination's new unified budget, continuing the work begun by agency unification and establishing the financial framework for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) over the next two years. The budget reflects ongoing efforts to align the denomination's ministries with available resources while supporting mission, governance, and shared ministry across the church. [Learn more about the PCUSA's Unified Budget.](#)

One of the most significant and widely discussed actions addressed the 2025 restructuring of Presbyterian World Mission. Rather than taking disciplinary action, the Assembly approved the creation of a seven-member restorative commission to review the decision-making process surrounding the restructuring and the elimination of mission co-worker positions. The commission has been charged with promoting truth-telling, transparency, institutional learning, and healthier decision-making practices for the future. [Learn more about the World Mission Review Commission.](#)

In another action related to employee care, commissioners directed denominational agencies to revise their personnel policies to prohibit the use of non-disclosure covenants for all employees. The change is intended to strengthen transparency and ensure employees are not restricted from sharing their experiences following separation from employment. [Learn more about the Ban on Nondisclosure Covenants.](#)

The Assembly also acted on several overtures related to gender and sexuality. Commissioners approved a measure allowing congregations to indicate their openness to considering LGBTQIA+ candidates during pastoral searches and authorized a denomination-wide study exploring questions of sexuality, marriage, and family in the life of the church. [Learn more about LGBTQIA+ Pastor Policy and Family Study.](#)

Looking ahead, commissioners voted to hold the 228th General Assembly in 2028 in San Juan, Puerto Rico, marking an historic opportunity for the denomination to gather in Puerto Rico for its next Assembly. [Learn more about why Puerto Rico was chosen for the 228th General Assembly.](#)

These actions represent only a portion of the work completed during GA227. The Assembly also considered matters related to worship, constitutional interpretation, international mission, peacemaking, social witness, and the ongoing life of the church.

If you'd like to explore the Assembly's work in greater depth, the [Presbyterian News Service](#) offers comprehensive coverage of every plenary session, committee action, and major decision. You can also browse the [official GA227 page](#) for videos, daily summaries, and links to the full business of the Assembly. The [Presbyterian Outlook](#) also provides in-depth reporting and analysis of many of the Assembly's actions.



Partner Links

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Church (U.S.A.)

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