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If you have seen this image in the bulletin and in the Chimes and don't know what it means or what to do with it here are the details...

The Presbyterian Foundation offers an Online Giving Program to PC(USA) congregations that allows you to make donations to your church online. We now have that option available for you. We know that people share their blessings in many ways with the church. Some donate grain or stocks, others give cash or write a check. This online option is just another way for you to share your generosity and fulfill your calling to serve our Lord by supporting the different programs we offer through our congregation; worship, faith formation, mission work and our physical space in our community.



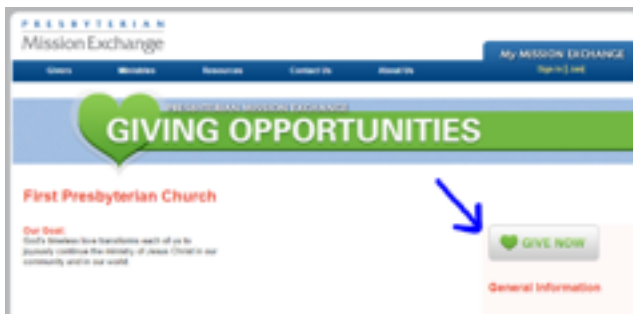
The Skinny on how it works. There are two options:

1. On your smart phone, go to your app store and download a QR Code Reader and Scanner. Scan the code and it will take you directly to the online donation page.
2. On your laptop or desktop computer, go to our church website at <http://fpcrwf.org/> and click on the 'Give Now' button in the upper right hand corner to make a one time or ongoing donation.

There are no setup fees or monthly fees, so getting started is free! There is a 2% administrative fee for all gifts received; this fee is for the reasonable and customary costs of operation and is to help ensure the continued viability of the program and its services.

NEW! Online Giving!

We've recently added online giving to our website! Now, if you're out of town, want to make recurring donations or aren't able to give in the offering plate on a Sunday you can now give online. It's easy and all hosted through the Presbyterian Mission Exchange. Just go to our home page, fpcrwf.org and click on GIVE NOW.



You'll be taken to a second page dedicated to giving to our church. Click on the Give Now Button to be taken to a page to enter your information.

Follow the step by step directions. You can give via debit or credit card or directly from your checking account. Direct your gift to any fund you'd like by noting it in the "NOTES" section and you're set! Any questions just ask Claire Meyers, vantagepointclaire@gmail.com or 430-4189.

We hope that by giving members alternate ways to support the church that those who are unable to give on a Sunday or just want an alternative way to give now have another option when it comes to supporting the causes at the church that you care about.



If you are more comfortable with giving offline... NO PROBLEM... You can make donations through your checking account. Automatic donations can be set up, please call the church office for all the details!

March 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 *Scott & Pam- KLGR	3
4 *Breakfast/Sunday School *Choir Practice *Worship-Holy Communion/Rev. Pamela Preaching *Congregational Meeting *Packing Weekend Food Bags *April FD Planning Meeting (C-E)	5 *Pastor-Rotary *Mission Committee Meeting	6 *Stewardship Committee Meeting	7 *Piecemakers *Youth Club *Meal *Lenten Service *Youth Faith in Action *Choir Practice	8 *Pastor-Visits *Deacon Meeting	9 *Scott-Meeting	10
11 *Breakfast/Sunday School *Choir Practice *Worship *Confirmation	12 *Pastor-Rotary *Memorial Committee Meeting *Session Meeting	13 *Pastor-Visits	14 *Youth Club *Meal *Lenten Service *Youth Faith in Action *Choir Practice	15	16	17 Chimes Deadline
18 *Breakfast/Sunday School *Choir Practice *Worship *Packing Weekend Food Bags *Confirmation	19 *Pastor-Rotary *Pastor-Visits	20 *Ruby's Pantry	21 *Piecemakers *Dorcas Circle- Parlor *Youth Club *Meal *Lenten Service *Youth Faith in Action *Choir Practice	22 *Pastor- Presbytery Conference Call	23	24
25 *Breakfast/Sunday School *Choir Practice *Worship *Friendship Dinner *Confirmation	26 *Pastor-Rotary	27	28	29 *Maundy Thursday Service-HC	30 *Good Friday Community Service Here	31

Pastor's Visitation Schedule

If Pastor Scott is unable to meet, you will be notified. If you are unable to meet at the designated time, please let the Pastor Scott know as soon as possible so other arrangements may be made. You may call his home phone at 627-5486.

Thank you.

March

Thursday, March 8:

9:30 am: Gordon & Ardis Alexander
10:30 am: Muriel Moon
11:10 am: Millie Bunting
2:00 pm: Joyce Mckay
3:00 pm: Lucille Byram
4:00 pm: Janean McKay

Tuesday, March 13:

9:00 am: Sally Dording
10:00 am: Bob & Bunny Nolting
11:00 am: Darlene Garrison
11:30 am: Janet Minkel
2:00 pm: Betty Peterson
3:00 pm: Bob & Barb Brown

Monday, March 19:

7:00 pm: Dan & Shari Fuhr

Church Fundraiser

6 cards for \$5

Drawing by Gerry Patten

Contact Pastor Scott if you are interested in purchasing.



April

Thursday, April 12:

9:30 am: Gordon & Ardis Alexander
10:30 am: Muriel Moon
11:10 am: Millie Bunting
2:00 pm: Darlene Garrison
3:00 pm: Lucille Byram
4:00 pm: Janet Minkel

Tuesday, April 17:

9:30 am: Wayne & Rosemary Bennett
11:00 am: Wayne Mann
Noon: Merlin Goudy
1:30 pm: Gary & Jenifer Hindt
3:00 pm: Scott & Joyce Goodyear
4:00 pm: Marlys Mathiowetz

Tuesday, April 24:

9:00 am: Rick & Fran Hauge
10:00 am: Karen Speros
11:00 am: Marlys Verdoes
2:00 pm: Todd & Kathy Peterson
3:00 pm: Tim & Lois Davis
4:00 pm: Dale & Sandy Starr

March Greeters

Deacon of Month: Leon King

3/4: Shane & Joanne Carroll/ Shaun & Becky Bruns
3/11: Winston & Rosie Venable/Rick & Denise Siegfried
3/18: Rachel Karnitz/Suzanne Menth
3/25: Nathan Jacobson/Matt & Kimary Tiffany

Our **March Friendship Dinner** will be planned and prepared by families of our congregation with the last names starting with **C-E**. These families are asked to meet in the Parlor on **Sunday, March 4**, following worship. If you are unable to attend this meeting please keep in contact with your group!

February Friendship Dinner

Sunday, March 25

5-6:30 pm

Menu: soups, breads and deserts

March Communion Servers

Scott Kohler, Rick Hauge, Kathy Peterson,
Leon & Sharon King, Sonya Alexander,
Maynard Nolting

March Ushers

Head Usher: Scott Kohler

Laura Kohler, Butch & Faythe Amberg,
Troy Amberg, Leon & Sharon King,
David Danielson, Ryan Kramer,
Jeryllyn Kodet, Rick Kramer

Youth Dates to Remember

Confirmation Sunday

April 22

Last Night of Wednesday Night Activities

April 25

Youth Sunday

April 29

Graduation Sunday

May 6

Last Morning of Sunday Activities

May 13

March
Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1st - Logan Morre, Jacob Gertsema, Sydney Gertsema,
Kaden Hicks
2nd - Dedra Zaske
3rd - Alex Tiffany, Stephanie Klavetter, Denise Kaupang
7th - Darlene Garrison, Matthew Prouty, Sally Dording
8th - Kim Becklund
9th - Becky Bruns, Doreen Steenblock
11th - Stephen Dording, Pam Iverson, Ryan Rohlik
13th - Amber Rohlik, Jackson Plotz
14th - Dan Kohler, Janean McKay, Courtney Siegfried
15th - Tara Steinkrans, Fred Bloedow, TJ Juell, Fran Hauge
16th - Ella Fuhr, Stacie Hicks, Derek VanderLinden
18th - Diane Aakre
19th - **Jenny & Mark Jansen**
21st - Beau Stough
22nd - Jonathan Sweetman, Muriel Moon
Kyle & Stacie Hicks, Don & Lorrie Quinn
23rd - Hope Norgaard, Aubrie Milhausen
25th - Simon Danielson
26th - Maynard Nolting
27th - Brenda Becklund

"Are any of you suffering hardships? You should pray. Are any of you happy? You should sing praises. Are any of you sick? You should call for the elders of the church to come and pray over you." -James 5:13-14

One of the glues that holds us together as Brothers and Sisters in Christ is prayer. It is a joy and an encouragement to know that members of your church family are praying for you! Elders in the church have a special call to pray for their Sisters and Brothers. Session already opens and closes every meeting with a prayer for the church. We would like to start praying more specifically, however, for each person in our church family. Every month we will contact about a dozen congregants to let them know we will be praying for them at the Session meeting, and to ask if they have any specific prayer requests. We will then open that month's Session meeting by giving thanks for, and praying for, specific members of the church. Of course, if you would like Session to pray for you please don't feel you have to wait until your turn comes up! Just get a hold of one of the members of Session, or Pastor Scott, and we will happily add you to that month's prayer list. Thank you for letting us know how we can pray for you. We are looking forward to being transformed and led together through this new practice!

God Bless,

Elders Richard Aakre, Sonya Alexander, Becky Bruns, Adrienne Danielson, Shari Fuhr, Rick Hage, Deb Hess, Scott Kohler, and Marlys Mathiowetz

Powerful Tools for Caregivers Classes Being on March 6
Remembering to Take Care of Yourself

Caregivers are those that care for others who can't care for themselves or need assistance to carry out everyday tasks. If you help someone with medications, attend doctor appointments with another person, assist with grocery shopping, laundry or other household chores or provide care for someone in their home or yours you are a caregiver. The job of caregiving while a worthwhile and rewarding endeavor can be filled with stress and requires an incredible amount of patience and understanding.

You Are Invited

A.C.E. of SW Minnesota – Redwood County & Garnette Gardens Senior Living Community are partnering to offer "Powerful Tools for Caregivers", a program designed to provide caregivers the tools they need to take care of themselves while caring for a relative or friend. Classes will be held at Garnette Gardens Senior Living Community, 511 Dekalb Street, Redwood Falls on Tuesdays at 4 pm, beginning March 6. This class is a six week series that will meet for 90 minutes each week. Pre-registration is required so materials can be prepared. Please call Karen Christensen, A.C.E. of SW MN – Redwood County at 627-1016 by March 2 to register. Classes are open to the public and all caregivers are welcome.



Transformation Ministry Event

Minnesota Valleys Presbytery is partnering with Midwest Initiative for Leading Transition to host a two and half day transformation training event, April 5-7, at the Presbyterian Church in St. Cloud. The event is designed for congregation teams and will focus on the complexity of leading churches through a transformation process. The faculty will address the misconceptions of the one size fits most concepts of church growth strategies. Trained in building the capacities of leaders to enter systems, coach change and resourcing various congregational systems this event will assist participants in retooling for ministry in the 21st century. **If you are interested in this event please talk to Pastor Scott BY MARCH 5!**

The Deacons are on a Mission

The Deacons are using the month of March and the March Food Share Campaign to make a difference for our local food shelf.

Lets get on board with the Deacons and make a difference in March.

Sunday, March 4, Deacons will hold a "Cash vs Cans" competition... Pick a team and join in the fun... Who will win?! Cans or Cash?!
Sunday, March 11, the Deacons will put on a cooking show with food collected! Don't miss out on seeing what the Deacons will whip up!
The Deacons will round off with a Hold-up. Sunday, March 18, the Deacons will pull out all the stops, you won't want to miss it!
The Mission committee has agreed to match up to \$500 collected.

World Day of Prayer

Everybody wants to "do something" in light of the recent violent tragedies from across the nation. As Christians part of our "doing" is the power of prayer. The RWF Ministerial is hosting a World Day of Prayer service in the Methodist parking lot on Friday, March 2, from 3:45-4 pm. Please come and join others from across our community as we light candles and lift up our prayers.



Youth For Christ

The YFC Spring Banquet will be on May 6, at the RACC, 12pm with lunch provided--we are hoping some of you folks will come out to hear stories of local kids impacted by area ministries! There is also a bake sale which will help teens go to camp. In our digital age I have scanned many old photographs and now we have thousands of photos of kids dating back 36 years. We invite guests to take whatever they want so we can continue to downsize our office storage space. Please RSVP for the banquet or contact us if you would like to help participate in the bake sale. call us at 637-8140 (leave a message if no answer) or email chris@yfcminnesota.com(preferred) with name and number of guests.

Generosity of Thought

"Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other's faults because of your love."-Ephesians 4:2-1

My friend Colleen's mom shared this story about Colleen at her funeral: About a week before Colleen died she came in to see her doctor one last time. She was in an enormous amount of pain, and she knew she did not have long to live. As she was trying to exit the elevator the person on it with her pushed past her and hurriedly exited ahead of her. Colleen's mom was disgusted and indignant with the way the seemingly oblivious person had treated her terminally ill daughter. She said to Colleen "Ugg, can you believe that?!". Colleen, practicing radical generosity of thought, said kindly to her mom "It's OK Mom, we don't know what is wrong in his life, or what he might be hurrying to."

"Generosity of Thought" could probably be more plainly said "Giving people the benefit of the doubt." When a neighbor makes a curt comment to you, when a co-worker leaves a task unfinished, when your server is slow to come and check on your table, when a family member forgets your birthday, when you hear something troubling about a prominent community member through the grapevine.....what is your first reaction? It shames me to admit it but, my gut reaction to each of these scenarios is, (former through latter): defensiveness, blame, annoyance, feeling slighted, and interest in the gossip. Every day we think hundreds of thoughts about other people. Too often these thoughts are not loving thoughts. Instead, we frequently assume the worst about the folks we interact with.

Do our thoughts matter? Do we change things in our lives, our families, church, workplaces, community, and beyond by thinking one way or another? Yes!! Jesus powerfully teaches *"But the things that come out of a person's mouth come from the heart, and these defile them."* (Matthew 15:18). Proverbs makes the mind-life connection very clear; *"For as he thinks in his heart, so is he."* (Proverbs 23:7). We are what we think! When we think unkind and unloving things we become unkind and unloving people. The way we think about our neighbor, co-worker, server, and fellow community member matters because it will change the way we treat them. When we assume the worst about another person, instead of the best, we also make ourselves unhappy. It is very unpleasant to allow a broken record of mean-spirited thoughts to play in our brains.

How do we become more generous with our thoughts? The Apostle Paul answers us succinctly saying *"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy--think about such things."* (Philippines 4:8). We can choose to give people the benefit of the doubt. We can choose to see God's image in the person whom we are upset with. We can choose to give thanks for what is 'right' about someone that person, instead of fixating on what we think is wrong with her. We can choose to trust that, as we learn to control our thoughts, our heart will change as well, and accordingly so will our fruit. A generous life starts with a generous mind.

Please God, give us more generous minds. Help us always to be humble and gentle, to be patient with one another and make allowance for one another's faults. Amen.

Adrienne Danielson, Deb Hess and Shari Fuhr

Generosity of Thought... Continued

Now Go and Do: Listen carefully to your own thoughts this week. Every. Single. Time. a mean-spirited thought comes into your mind about a person intentionally follow that thought up by giving thanks to God for something specifically good about that person ("Father, thank you that Jane always remembers her co-workers' birthdays and takes the time to make each of us a cake."). If you do not know the person follow your negative thought up with a prayer asking God to bless that person ("Lord, please make Your Presence beautifully known to the man in the blue pick-up truck; may his heart perceive the depth of Your love for him.").

Love,
Your Generosity Project Team

P.S. We would love love love to hear stories of generosity from everyone in the church family. If you have a story about "generosity of thought" **please share it with us.** It is very inspirational to hear how everyone's lives have been impacted by the kindness of others! Any story, tip, prayer, or idea you have can be sent to Adrienne Danielson (Adriennejune@yahoo.com), Deb Hess (gmc1953dlh@aol.com), Shari Fuhr (dsfuhr@gmail.com), Pastor Scott or the church office. Of course, you could always just grab one of us after church too and share your story 😊. God bless!

Minnesota FoodShare - March Campaign

What is it?! Minnesota FoodShare began its work in 1982 with a campaign advanced by congregations to restock food shelves in the 7-county Twin Cities Metropolitan Area. The effort was so successful and the need was so evident, the March Campaign became a statewide program just one year later.

The largest grassroots food and fund drive in the state, the Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign brings together various community organizations, businesses, and faith communities to help stock nearly 300 food shelves statewide. In 2017, over \$8 million dollars and 4.7 million pounds of food were raised by Minnesota food shelves and Minnesota FoodShare.

Minnesota FoodShare envisions a Minnesota where all residents have access to healthy food and no one struggles with food insecurity. The March Campaign addresses these issues directly and we invite you to join our efforts and advocate for long-term solutions to food insecurity and poverty in our communities.

Once again this March, we join food shelves, faith communities, businesses, and organizations across Minnesota in acting to end hunger and food insecurity. **Please bring nonperishable items for our local food shelf and/or monetary donations throughout March.** Together, we can ensure #FoodForAllMN.

Taking Action Against Hunger in Minnesota - Did YOU Know?!

- Over 3,000,000 visits are made to Minnesota food shelves each year.
- Approximately 552,000 households experience food insecurity.
- 1 in 7 children in Minnesota struggle with hunger.
- Local food shelves can stretch your \$1 into enough food for 2-3 meals.
- The 2017 March Campaign raised more than 4.7 million pounds of food and \$8 million for Minnesota food shelves.
- 100% of financial contributions to Minnesota FoodShare via the March Campaign go to participating food shelves.



"When you pick the food of your land at gathering time, do not pick all the way to the corners of your field. And do not gather the food left on the ground there after you have picked. Do not gather what is left among your vines, or gather the grapes that have fallen. Leave them for those in need and for the stranger." - Leviticus 19:9-10

Notes From the Pastor

Ruling Elder Adrienne Danielson recently asked the congregation in her sermon, *"if our church was given \$1 million dollars to do ministry work with! What work do you dream of our church being able to do in the community with the money?"*

One of the core Scripture passages that drives me is Matthew 25: 35-36: *"for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."*

I would want to make sure that everyone's basic needs were taken of first. Feed anyone that is hungry. Find shelter for anyone that is homeless. Get medical care or dental care for anyone that needs it. Help unemployed people find jobs. Provide day-care. Provide educational scholarships. Befriend the lonely. I also would want to work on teaching us to treat one another better by striving to end racism, sexism, agism and the other hurtful isms. We are created in God's image so we should love one another and treat one another with respect. I would want to give others a firm foundation in Jesus Christ so they can share Christ's love with the world.

Did you know you are being prayed for?

Our deacons have divided a list of our entire church family up and are praying for you daily.

The Session prays for 1/12 of the congregation each session meeting by praying for each person by name.

I pray for you daily too by going through the directory, new names are added in as needed.

I know we have prayer warriors in the congregation praying for you too.

Isn't that great to know? That your church family cares enough about you to pray for you? It makes me feel safe, secure and connected when I think about it.

We have a prayer chain that works by phone too.

If you ever need extra prayer let any elder, deacon, the prayer chain or me know and we will put it into action. There is power in prayer. If you need it, don't be afraid to ask for it. Tap into God's power.

Thanks For Your Support

Dear First Presbyterian Church of Redwood Falls, Thank you for faithfully supporting Presbyterian Mission in South Sudan. Your generosity allows mission co-workers to serve with our global partners, helping them develop better access to education and teach peace-building skills through the South Sudan Education and Peace-building Project (SSEPP). This work continues to have great impact despite challenging circumstances, as you can see in the attached Q4 2017 reports for SSEPP and the Presbyterian Church of South Sudan (PCOSS) Education Department. I'm writing to let you know that Leisa Wagstaff, mission co-worker serving as PCOSS Education Facilitator, will be visiting the U.S. on interpretative assignment from July-September 2018. Leisa hopes to visit as many supporting congregations as possible to share the work she is doing to help build capacity and strengthen South Sudan's educational system. Lynn & Sharon Kandel, regional liaisons who are also part of the SSEPP staff, will be in the U.S. and available for interpretative visits from March-May and July-September 2018. There is nothing like a face-to-face conversation with a mission co-worker to develop greater energy and engagement for mission in a congregation. Leisa and the Kandels are eager to tell you about their ministry for the PC(USA) in South Sudan since 2014.

Congratulations to our Church Member, Lauren Karnitz

Redwood Valley High School is pleased to announce our 2017-18 ExCEL Award Winners Lauren Karnitz and Deon Estebo. The ExCEL award – Excellence in Community, Education and Leadership – is a unique recognition program designed exclusively for Minnesota high school juniors who are active in school activities, who show leadership qualities, and who work voluntarily in their community.

Lauren is involved in cross country, track and field, hockey statistics, musical (pit band), robotics, student council, NHS, band, jazz band, drum-line, honor band and dance. She has been on the A honor roll all semesters of her high school career. She volunteers with meals on wheels, Ruby's Pantry, Big Buddies, church, shoe drive, NHS events, Celebrate Redwood Falls, Adopt a Highway, Urban Plunge and a weekend backpack helper. She has competed at the state cross Country meet three times. Lauren was selected as one of 36 ExCEL award winners in the state and will be honored during a state girls basketball game.

Notes From the Pastor

Good Friday

It has been awhile since we have hosted the Community Good Friday Service but we are this year on March 30, at 12:05 pm. The last three or four years we have done contemporary worship in a circle and this year the ministerial decided they wanted to have a more traditional worship service in a more traditional church setting. Bryant Kaden of Gloria Dei Lutheran, Randy Koppen of First United Methodist and I are planning the service. Our church choir will be singing and others will be invited to join. Please mark it on your calendars and plan to come. It would be nice to see lots of faces from our church family present at the service.

Presbytery Transformation Conference

Our Presbytery is putting on Transformation Conference in St. Cloud, Minnesota on April 5-7. We are looking for people from our congregation to go. We sent folks from our congregation to national transformation conference in Charlotte in 2004 and New York City in 2005. Then the national church stopped doing them, but now we have an opportunity to go to a local one for a responsible price. Come here motivating speakers and how to leading change in the 21st century church, working within systems, cultural and systemic challenges to ministry today, transformation models, vocation discernment and visioning for the future. Please talk to Pastor Scott Prouty if you are interested as soon as possible. The Deadline to register is March 15 (hotel reservations must be confirmed by March 5). The cost is \$169 for meals, lodging and the conference.

General Assembly

General Assembly is the National Meeting of the Presbyterian Church, USA that meets every other year. This year it meets in St. Louis, Missouri from June 16-23. Each of the 171 Presbytery sends commissioners to vote. Our Presbytery, Minnesota Valleys, voted to send Ruling Elder Deb Hess of our church and me. They also voted to send Julia Prouty as a Young Adult Advisory Delegate. I have been invited to serve as the Vice Moderator of the Assembly Committee on Ecumenical and Interfaith Issues at General Assembly. I am deeply honored by this.

The Chimes

We are making changes with the Chimes newsletter. **We will no longer be mailing the Chimes via the postoffice;** they will be sent out via email. **Paper copies can be requested and will be available for pickup in the Narthex every month.** We will have a sign-up sheet for those that wish to have a printed copy in the Narthex.

We also request that you put your preferred email address on the EMAIL sheet in the Narthex. Or, you may send an email to the church office (churchofc@hotmail.com) with the address you prefer we use to send the Chimes. More than one address may be included!

Of course, the Chimes can always be found on our Church Website! www.fpcrwf.org If you have any questions, please feel free to call the Church office. (627-8751)

Thank you, The Session, Pastor Scott and Tina



235 East 4th Street
PO Box 444
Redwood Falls, MN 56283

Office Phone: 507-627-8751
Dinning Room Phone: 507-627-2430
Manse Phone: 507-627-5486
Office Email: churchofc@hotmail.com
Pastor Email: scott_prouty@hotmail.com
Church Website: fpcrwf.org