



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

# February Chimes

## GREETERS

Deacon of Month: Julie Fiala

2/4: Leon King

2/11: Lois Davis

2/18: Don Dagner

2/25: Todd & Kathy Peterson

## USHERS

Bob Alexander, Dan Alexander, Kyle,  
Kaden & Kanyon Hicks, Nick &  
Katherine Brozek, Kathy Peterson

## COMMUNION SERVERS

Bob & Sonya Alexander, Dan Alexander,  
Bruce Tiffany, Nick & Katherine Brozek,  
Dan Tiffany

**WORSHIP: 10:15 AM**  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9 AM**  
**CHOIR: 9:15 AM**

235 E 4th Street  
Redwood Falls, MN 56283  
507-627-8751

Pastor: Rev. Scott Prouty  
scott\_prouty@hotmail.com  
Church Office: churchofc@hotmail.com  
Church Website: fpcrwf.org

**2024 PER-CAPITA**  
**GENERAL ASSEMBLY: \$9.80**  
**SYOD: \$5.50**  
**PRESBYTERY: \$29.70**  
**TOTAL: \$45.00/PER MEMBER**

# 2024 USHERS & COMMUNION SERVERS

## January:

Head Usher: Matt Tiffany

Ushers: Kimary Tiffany, Barb Nelson, Dave Danielson, Leon King, Donavon Sharpe

## February:

Head Usher: Robert Alexander

Ushers: Dan Alexander, Kyle Hicks, Kaden Hicks, Kanyon Hicks, Nick Brozek, Katherine Brozek, Kathy Peterson

## March:

Head Usher: Leon King

Ushers: Butch Amberg, Faythe Amberg, Troy Amberg, Mark Oja, David Danielson, Rick Kramer, Jerilyn Kodet, Ryan Kramer, Lindsey Kramer, Knox Kramer

## April:

Head Usher: Scott Kohler

Ushers: Laura Kohler, Nancy Miller, Don Quinn, Lorrie Quinn, Wayne Mann, Scott Mann

## May:

Head Usher: Leon King

Ushers: Greg Dording, Stephen Dording, Kim McKay, Tom Stough, Barb Stough, Julie Rienstra, Shawn Corder, Leann Corder

## June:

Head Usher: Dorie Oja

Ushers: Julie Fiala, Mark Oja, Michael Joldersma, Rhonda Joldersma, Sonya Alexander, Becky Stephens

## July:

Head Usher: Drew Osborne

Ushers: Bruce Tiffany, Ann Tiffany, Merlin Goudy, Diane Davis, Lois Davis, Dan Tiffany

## August:

Head Usher: Wayne Mann

Ushers: Scott Mann, Kevin McKay, Paul Hagen, Marlys Mathiowetz, Kim McKay, Julie Rienstra

## September:

Head Usher: Don Dagner

Ushers: Scott Goodyear, Rachel Karnitz, Dale Starr, Sandy Starr, Tony Miller, Molly Miller

## October:

Head Usher: Nathan Stephens

Ushers: Val Stephens, Blake Stephens, Claire Stephens, Brian Klavetter, Stephanie Klavetter, Rick Hauge

## November:

Head Usher: Paul Hagen

Ushers: Kevin Zaske, Shannon Sweetman, Dave Gertsema, Linda Boyer

## December:

Head Usher: Dan Fuhr

Ushers: Shari Fuhr, Max Fuhr, Lucas Fuhr, Brent Prouty, Amber Rohlik, Aaron Rohlik, Keegan Mammen, Shellie Mammen, Kyron Mammen, Ethan Mammen, Ralph Revier

## Communion Servers 2024

### January:

Head Server: Dave Danielson

Servers: Shannon Sweetman, Adrienne Danielson, Dan Alexander, Leon King, Matt Tiffany, Shari Fuhr

### February:

Head Server: Bob Alexander

Servers: Dan Alexander, Bruce Tiffany, Nick Brozek, Katherine Brozek, Dan Tiffany, Sonya Alexander

### March:

Head Server: Dave Danielson

Servers: Leon King, Adrienne Danielson, Tony Miller, Bob Alexander, Dan Alexander, Sonya Alexander

### April:

Head Server: Steph Klavetter

Servers: Laura Kohler, Bob Alexander, Mike Bentson, Nancy Miller, Scott Kohler, Dave Danielson

### May:

Head Server: Julie Rienstra

Servers: Nick Brozek, Nathan Stephens, Shawn Corder, Scott Goodyear, Paul Hagen, Becky Stephens

### June:

Head Server: Michael Joldersma

Servers: Becky Stephens, Rhonda Joldersma, Julie Fiala, Julie Rienstra, Dan Tiffany, Dori Oja

### July:

Head Server: Bruce Tiffany

Servers: Dan Tiffany, Lois Davis, Julie Rienstra, Scott Goodyear, Julie Fiala, Diane Davis

### August:

Head Server: Michael Joldersma

Servers: Rhonda Joldersma, Bruce Tiffany, Leon King, Becky Stephens, Marlys Mathiowetz, Paul Hagen

### September:

Head Server: Michael Joldersma

Servers: Scott Goodyear, Rhonda Joldersma, Shari Fuhr, Mike Bentson, Tony Miller, Dave Danielson

### October:

Head Server: Nathan Stephens

Servers: Stephanie Klavetter, Nick Brozek, Shannon Sweetman, Mike Bentson, Katherine Brozek, Rick Hauge

### November:

Head Server: Steph Klavetter

Servers: Shannon Sweetman, Nathan Stephens, Laura Kohler, Candy Zaske, Drew Osborne, Dave Danielson

### December:

Head Server: Tony Miller

Servers: Shari Fuhr, Dave Danielson, Adrienne Danielson, Julie Fiala, Molly Miller, Dan Tiffany

A Note

## FROM PASTOR SCOTT

Why do we celebrate Ash Wednesday?

Ash Wednesday is important because it marks the start of the Lenten period leading up to Easter, when Christians believe Jesus was resurrected. The ashes symbolize both death and repentance. During this period, Christians show repentance and mourning for their sins, because they believe Christ died for them. This year our Ash Wednesday Service will be at 6:00 p.m. on February 14th. The Confirmation Class will be helping to lead the service. Holy Communion will be celebrated and ashes will be placed on the forehead or hand of anyone that wishes to receive them.

What is the significance of ashes on forehead?

This period is considered by Christians to be God's test of Jesus's spirituality and ability to withstand temptation. Today, Christians use the religious holiday both to repent and reflect. The ash cross marking observers' foreheads is meant to represent mortality and penance for their sins.

What is the significance of 40 days in Lent?

Forty is typically indicative of a time of testing, trial, penance, purification, and renewal. In the New Testament, forty days is the length of Jesus' time of trial in the desert in preparation for his public ministry, proclaiming the Gospel.



*Have you ever wondered why we celebrate Valentine's Day? Check out this article from the History Channel. Have a wonderful Valentine's Day! In Christ's love, Pastor Scott Prouty*

### **The Legend of St. Valentine**

Where did Valentine's Day originate from? The history of the holiday—and the story of its patron saint—is shrouded in mystery. We do know that February has long been celebrated as a month of romance, and that St. Valentine's Day, as we know it today, contains vestiges of both Christian and ancient Roman tradition. But who was Saint Valentine, and how did he become associated with this ancient rite?

The Catholic Church recognizes at least three different saints named Valentine or Valentinus, all of whom were martyred. One legend contends that Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret. When Valentine's actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death. Still others insist that it was Saint Valentine of Terni, a bishop, who was the true namesake of the holiday. He, too, was beheaded by Claudius II outside Rome. Other stories suggest that Valentine may have been killed for attempting to help Christians escape harsh Roman prisons, where they were often beaten and tortured. According to one legend, an imprisoned Valentine actually sent the first "valentine" greeting himself after he fell in love with a young girl—possibly his jailor's daughter—who visited him during his confinement. Before his death, it is alleged that he wrote her a letter signed "From your Valentine," an expression that is still in use today. Although the truth behind the Valentine legends is murky, the stories all emphasize his appeal as a sympathetic, heroic and—most importantly—romantic figure. By the Middle Ages, perhaps thanks to this reputation, Valentine would become one of the most popular saints in England and France.

### **Origins of Valentine's Day: A Pagan Festival in February**

While some believe that Valentine's Day is celebrated in the middle of February to commemorate the anniversary of Valentine's death or burial—which probably occurred around A.D. 270—others claim that the Christian church may have decided to place St. Valentine's feast day in the middle of February in an effort to "Christianize" the pagan celebration of Lupercalia. Celebrated at the ides of February, or February 15, Lupercalia was a fertility festival dedicated to Faunus, the Roman god of agriculture, as well as to the Roman founders Romulus and Remus.

To begin the festival, members of the Luperci, an order of Roman priests, would gather at a sacred cave where the infants Romulus and Remus, the founders of Rome, were believed to have been cared for by a she-wolf or lupa. The priests would sacrifice a goat, for fertility, and a dog, for purification. They would then strip the goat's hide into strips, dip them into the sacrificial blood and take to the streets, gently slapping both women and crop fields with the goat hide. Far from being fearful, Roman women welcomed the touch of the hides because it was believed to make them more fertile in the coming year. Later in the day, according to legend, all the young women in the city would place their names in a big urn. The city's bachelors would each choose a name and become paired for the year with his chosen woman. These matches often ended in marriage.

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### **Valentine's Day Meaning: A Day of Romance and Love**

Lupercalia survived the initial rise of Christianity but was outlawed—as it was deemed “un-Christian”—at the end of the 5th century, when Pope Gelasius declared February 14 St. Valentine’s Day. It was not until much later, however, that the day became definitively associated with love. During the Middle Ages, it was commonly believed in France and England that February 14 was the beginning of birds’ mating season, which added to the idea that the middle of Valentine’s Day should be a day for romance. The English poet Geoffrey Chaucer was the first to record St. Valentine’s Day as a day of romantic celebration in his 1375 poem “Parliament of Fowles,” writing, ““For this was sent on Seynt Valentyne’s day / Whan every foul cometh there to choose his mate.”

Valentine greetings were popular as far back as the Middle Ages, though written Valentine’s didn’t begin to appear until after 1400. The oldest known valentine still in existence today was a poem written in 1415 by Charles, Duke of Orleans, to his wife while he was imprisoned in the Tower of London following his capture at the Battle of Agincourt. (The greeting is now part of the manuscript collection of the British Library in London, England.) Several years later, it is believed that King Henry V hired a writer named John Lydgate to compose a valentine note to Catherine of Valois.

### **Who Is Cupid?**

Cupid is often portrayed on Valentine’s Day cards as a naked cherub launching arrows of love at unsuspecting lovers. But the Roman God Cupid has his roots in Greek mythology as the Greek god of love, Eros. Accounts of his birth vary; some say he is the son of Nyx and Erebus; others, of Aphrodite and Ares; still others suggest he is the son of Iris and Zephyrus or even Aphrodite and Zeus (who would have been both his father and grandfather).

According to the Greek Archaic poets, Eros was a handsome immortal played with the emotions of Gods and men, using golden arrows to incite love and leaden ones to sow aversion. It wasn’t until the Hellenistic period that he began to be portrayed as the mischievous, chubby child he’d become on Valentine’s Day cards.

### **Typical Valentine’s Day Greetings and Gifts**

In addition to the United States, Valentine’s Day is celebrated in Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom, France and Australia. In Great Britain, Valentine’s Day began to be popularly celebrated around the 17th century. By the middle of the 18th, it was common for friends and lovers of all social classes to exchange small tokens of affection or handwritten notes, and by 1900 printed cards began to replace written letters due to improvements in printing technology. Ready-made cards were an easy way for people to express their emotions in a time when direct expression of one’s feelings was discouraged. Cheaper postage rates also contributed to an increase in the popularity of sending Valentine’s Day greetings.

Americans probably began exchanging hand-made valentines in the early 1700s. In the 1840s, Esther A. Howland began selling the first mass-produced valentines in America. Howland, known as the “Mother of the Valentine,” made elaborate creations with real lace, ribbons and colorful pictures known as “scrap.” Today, according to Hallmark, an estimated 145 million Valentine’s Day cards are sent each year, making Valentine’s Day the second largest card-sending holiday of the year (more cards are sent at Christmas).

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
February				1 Pastor Visits  Pastor Zoom Meeting	2	3
4 S School/Choir  Worship-HC  Wk Food Bags-Bentson	5	6	7 Piecemakers  OT, NT BStudy  Pastor Visit  Confirmation-Pastor Scott	8 Pastor Dollars for Scholars Meeting  Deacon Meeting	9	10
11 S School/Choir  Worship	12 Pastor Rotary  Session Meeting	13 Pastor LINC Meeting	14 OT, NT BStudy  Worship  Confirmation	15 Pastor Visits	16	17
18 S School/Choir  Worship  Wk Food Bags-Fuhr	19 Offices Closed- Presidents' Day	20 Pastor Zoom Meeting  Ruby's Pantry	21 Piecemakers  OT, NT BStudy  Confirmation-Bentson	22 Pastor Visits  Pastor SEI Board Meeting	23	24
25 S School/Choir  Worship	26 Pastor Rotary/Board Meeting	27	28 OT, NT BSutdy  Confirmation-Brozek	29 Pastor Visits		

# Pastor's Visitation Schedule

**Review & Confirm** your visit with the church office.

## February

### February 1 Pastor Scott Visits:

Bob & Bunny Notling at 2:00 pm  
Sally Dording at 3:00 pm  
Todd & Kathy Peterson at 4:00 pm

### February 7 Pastor Scott Visits:

Lois Davis at 3:30 pm

### February 8 Pastor Scott Visits:

Don Dagner at 2:00 pm  
Mark & Dorie Oja at 3:00 pm  
Scott & Laura Kohler at 4:00 pm

### February 15 Pastor Scott Visits:

Rick & Fran Hauge at 9:00 am  
Patty Rohne at 10:00 am  
Julie Fiala at 10:00 am  
Dan Tiffany at 2:00 pm  
Kim McKay at 3:30 pm

### February 22 Pastor Scott Visits:

Leon King at 9:30 am  
Judy Curtis at 2:00 pm  
Dave & Adrienne Danielson at 3:00 pm

### January 29 Pastor Scott Visits:

Rosemary Bennett at 9:30 am  
Jenifer Hindt at 11:00 am  
Sue Tiffany at 2:00 pm  
Doreen Steenblock at 3:00 pm  
Ralph Revier at 4:00 pm

## March

### March 5 Pastor Scott Visits:

Bob & Bunny Notling at 2:00 pm  
Sally Dording at 3:00 pm  
Todd & Kathy Peterson at 4:00 pm

### March 7 Pastor Scott Visits:

Leon King at 2:00 pm  
Lee & Diane Davis at 3:30 pm

### March 14 Pastor Scott Visits:

Ralph Revier at 9:00 am  
Doreen Steenblock at 10:00 am  
Don Dagner at 11:00 am  
Sue Tiffany at 4:00 pm

### March 21 Pastor Scott Visits:

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

## • HAPPY BIRTHDAY •

1st: Samantha Gertsema

James Palmer

Katherine Brozek

4th: Max Fuhr

5th: Andrew Stephens

6th: Val Stephens

7th: Pearl Alexander

Jared Miller

Jenny Kohler

12th: Sean Becklund

Penelope Oja

Theodore Oja

13th: Bryant Robertson

14th: Fae Becklund

15th: Nancy Miller

16th: Kyle Jacobson

17th: Shelby Burg

18th: Blaise Stough

19th: Shawn Corder

Annie Bloedow

20th: Annika Quinn

23rd: Noelle Donner

25th: Lee Davis

Randy Juell

26th: Nathan Zimmerman

28th: Kelly Kohler

Penny Fuhr

Danika Jansen

Cade Morris