

February, 2023

**NORTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

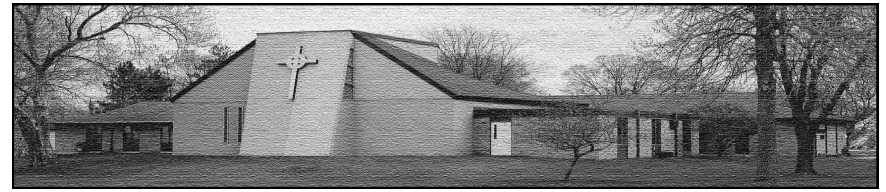
1327 North Salem Road  
La Crosse, WI 54603

**NORTH STAR NEWS** is a non-profit publication containing information and concerns of members and friends of North Presbyterian Church of La Crosse, Wisconsin.

**Sunday Worship: 8:00am & 10:00am**  
**Virtually - Sunday at 8am on our Facebook Page or Website**  
**Sunday School: 9am**

**Please contact us at:**  
**608-781-5690**  
**office@npc lax.org**

**PASTOR:**  
Rev. Scott Skogen  
**OFFICE MANAGER:**  
Karla Korish  
**PARISH ED. & YOUTH COORDINATOR:**  
Reggie Lezpona  
**ORGANIST:** Ruth Mashak  
**FIRST SERVICE MUSICIAN:**  
Judy Bouffleur  
**ADULT CHOIR DIRECTOR:**  
Ruth Mashak  
**MAINTENANCE:**  
Joel Cloutier



**NORTH STAR NEWS February, 2023**

**Pastor Scott's Scripts**

I first started celebrating Valentine's Day when I was at Pertzsch Elementary School in Onalaska. As a class, we would all exchange Valentine cards with our classmates. A few of our classmates showed their "love" to us by taping an anise sucker from the Sweet Shop to their card. I loved those classmates!

It has been said that "Love is the foundation, the very heart, of the Christian faith." This is beautifully expressed by Jesus in the Gospel of Matthew when an expert of the Law asks, "Which is the greatest commandment in the Law and Jesus answered, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind and love your neighbor as yourself."

Love God and love others...if we in the church keep these two things as our focus and our priority, we can and will change the world for the better.

As Bruce Ballantine notes, "Toward that end, perhaps one rule of the church is to serve as a rehearsal space where we can learn and practice and fine tune the act of loving others." He then adds a cartoon that pictures a preacher at the pulpit, a deacon sitting behind him with a grumpy expression on his face...he then turns to the congregation and says, "So until next Sunday, remember that God loves you, I love you, and Deacon Al here is working on it."

A couple of weeks ago, our youth choir said it best when they sang, "Love, love, love. That's what it's all about. 'Cause God loves us, we love each other: mother, father, sister, brother. Everybody sing and shout! 'Cause that's what it's all about. It's about love, love, love!"

In February, we as a congregation have a variety of opportunities to express our love. On "Souper Bowl" Sunday, we can enjoy samples of soup and chili and share a gift to the Food Pantry. On "Fat Tuesday", we can enjoy fellowship and lunch with our brothers and sisters. On Ash Wednesday, we can worship and together share a Lenten journey. On Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup>, we can gather to support our grieving brothers and sisters on Remembrance Sunday. To be able to mourn, cry, and grieve among friends is truly an act and gift of love.

Dear friends, let us strive to be a church that is all about love, love, love. See ya in church and Happy Valentine's all through this month of love.

Pastor Scott



# Souper Bowl Sunday February 12th The North Church Chili & Soup Cookoff

Sign-up in the Narthex to bring your favorite chili or soup for us all to try.

And don't worry, if you are not a chili/soup cooker, we'd love to have you sign-up to bring a dessert, crackers, or cornbread if you'd like.

This event will support hunger in our community. Our pantry is getting very low so we'll be collecting non-perishable food items to fill it back up. Monetary donations will be used to purchase items we may need and/or to support Wafer Food Pantry.

(See the NPC Little Food Pantry piece for suggestions on what to bring)

## FEBRUARY donation/offering opportunity: "One Great Hour of Sharing"

The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing — Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People — all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope. Each gift to One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) helps to improve the lives of people in these challenging situations. The Offering provides us a way to share God's love with our neighbors in need. In fact, OGHS is the single, largest way that Presbyterians come together every year to work for a better world.

## Remembrance Sunday

On Sunday, February 26<sup>th</sup> during the 10:00 a.m. worship service, we will gather as a church to honor and to lovingly remember our brothers and sisters who have passed on to eternal glory in 2022.

The choir will sing songs of reflection and hope, the sermon that day will focus on comfort and remembrance. We will also share a special time of remembrance where we present a rose to a family member in memory of your loved one.

Please contact the church office if you would like your loved one to be included in the remembrance. Also, please let us know if you will be worshipping with us that day so we can present you with a remembrance rose.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY February, 2023

1	Megan Ostrem	9	Ken Kintzel
2	Erin Banasik		Kim Gavin
3	Joan Johnston	13	Kathy Runice
	Mary Wruck	17	Donald Kibler
4	<b>Pastor Scott Skogen</b>		Heather Molling
	Jon Schuster	21	Peggy Opland
	Scott Turnbull		Avery Werner
5	Elizabeth Burelbach	23	Margie Otto
6	Tim Wells		Jean Kintzel
7	Paul Ernst	25	Zach Hauser
	John Burelbach		Jill Ender
	Terry Thomas	26	Ken Cvikota
8	Nancy Armstrong		Neil Molling
	Laura Lee-Fugina		



## *Fun Bunch: "Fat Tuesday"*

February 21st at Noon

Pastor Scott will prepare  
his "Mom's" favorite Hot Dish

*Please bring a dish to pass as well.*

Let us enjoy a big meal in preparation for our  
Lenten journey.

## **MOBILE MEALS**

**Monday, February 27— Sunday, March 5**

### **PICK UP WHERE**

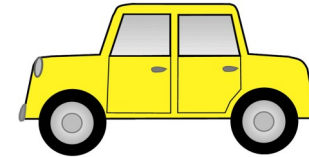
Mayo Clinic Hospital on Market St., between 10th & 11th

### **PICK-UP TIME**

10:50—11:00 AM

**SIGN-UP SHEET IN NARTHEX  
Or email or call the church office.  
608-781-5690 or [office@npclax.org](mailto:office@npclax.org)**

If you have any questions on the process or would like to be paired with someone who has delivered before to learn the process, please contact Karla at the Church office for more information.



## Ash Wednesday

February, 22nd  
Loaves & Fishes  
6:30 p.m.



## **2023 Lent Series**

Meeting Jesus at the Table

Cynthia M. Campbell & Christine Coy Fohr

March 1 <sup>st</sup>	Eating with Tax Collectors
March 8 <sup>th</sup>	Surprised by Grace
March 15 <sup>th</sup>	Empty Chairs
March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Breaking Bread/ Road to Emmaus
March 29 <sup>th</sup>	Making Room at the Table

Dinner at 5:30 p.m.

Worship with Holy Communion at 6:30 p.m.

We are **ALWAYS** accepting donations for our little food pantry. These items that seem to move out quickly and can be put out during the winter:

Tuna or Chicken Packets  
Ready to Serve Meals (Hormel Completes)  
Microwave Mac & Cheese  
Peanut Butter & Jelly  
Cereal (small boxes are great)  
Ramen or Dry Soup such as Lipton Noodle  
Muffin or Pancake Mix (just add water)  
Individual snacks like granola bars and Poptarts  
Nuts/Crackers/Popcorn  
Powdered Milk  
Stuffing  
Instant Rice & Pasta  
Instant Potatoes (bags or small boxes)



**\*\* Keep in mind our neighbors using the pantry often don't have additional ingredients to prepare items like Mac & Cheese that require butter and milk so instant options that just need water to prepare or come complete are best.**



# February 2023

# LOVE

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Joint Deacon & Elders Meeting Potluck 6:00 p.m. Meeting 7:00 p.m.	9	10	11
12 Souper Bowl Sunday— Chili & Soup Cookoff	13	14 <i>happy Valentine's day</i>	15	16	17	18
19	20	21 Fun Bunch “Fat Tuesday” Potluck Lunch	22 <b>ASH</b> <b>WEDNESDAY</b> 	23	24	25
26 Remembrance Sunday	27  Mobile Meals	28  Mobile Meals				