

#### A MESSENGER FROM THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, LODI & WISCONSIN 53555

WEBSITE: www.LodiPresbyterianChurch.org & E-MAIL: office@lodifpc.org & PHONE: 608-592-4310 & FAX: 608-592-2332 FIND US ON FACEBOOK! FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LODI, WI

### -JULY 2021-



# **SANCTUARY WORSHIP!**

Session has met and discussed the recent CDC ruling that vaccinated people no longer need to wear masks. We have come to the conclusion that we wish to proceed slowly, baby steps, rather than rushing to return to "normal." We feel it is important to make sure that everyone feels comfortable and safe during worship and we are aware that our desire to sing together in worship increases the risk of transmission.

Therefore, your session has decided that we will continue to wear masks during worship, but we will open up more seating space in the pews so that families and friends can sit together as they feel comfortable. We will continue to sing and to share in our responsive liturgy. Those leading worship, lay leaders, pastors, and those sharing announcements, will remove their masks while speaking to make it easier for those who have difficulty hearing, but will replace the masks prior to singing.

We will be exploring the possibility of worshipping one Sunday a month out in the parking lot, as we all enjoyed our outdoor worship so much last year.

Fellowship will be held in the parking lot provided the weather is good.

We look forward to seeing you and worshipping together again! Sincerely,

#### **Your Session**

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Dear friends,

I have so enjoyed walking through Acts with you for the past few weeks. It is an astonishing tale of the radical, reckless love of God for all of God's beloved children. We hear again and again of God being present with people who we don't want to believe God could care for, or at least, not before they repent, change their ways and live like us!

We have listened to the story of God intervening with a man determined to hunt and turn over followers of Jesus, of God searching for and finding a non-gender conforming African, of God sending an apostle to a law-breaking officer of the Roman army. God finds us, even when we have been told over and over that we don't belong and we aren't wanted. God shakes us up, even when we believe we already have all the answers and are determined that anyone who disagrees must suffer the consequences. God sees who you are, all the mess and all the goodness, and loves you.

It offends our sense of decorum. It offends our sense of justice. We are, after all, Americans and we've been raised to believe that if you want something good, you'd better get off your duff and work for it. There is no such thing as a free lunch! Pull yourself up by your bootstraps and deal with it! Except...God's economy, God's grace, God's justice, doesn't work like that. God is over the top, out of control, extravagant with grace, love, inclusion, and forgiveness. It's really outrageous how little one has to do in order to be loved by God, to be forgiven, to be restored wholly and completely to relationship with God and with community.

The past of the church was intersectional. It drew people from all walks of life together, and erased the hierarchies that were so common place, that told you who was in, and who was out. We too are called to live and love without regard to a person's status, color, gender, or any other thing that might cause us to see one above another. We are all children of God.

I believe the future of the Church is intersectional. Yet this one hour every Sunday continues to be the most segregated hour of the week, and the rising generations are tired of waiting to see if or when the church will understand, that we belong to one another, black, white, gay, straight, binary, nonbinary, all these identifiers become secondary when our primary identity is Child of God. All of our attempts to own the Truth, capital T-truth, are insignificant when the question is, "How well do we love?"

(Continued on next page)



# WAYS TO STAY CONNECTED

## WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 9:30 A.M.

Join us for an in-person, socially distanced bible study held in the back of the sanctuary at 9:30 a.m.

# WORSHIP ON SUNDAY 9:00 A.M.

You can join in worship with us at 9 a.m. in person, in the sanctuary with masking and social distancing, in the parking lot via FM radio, online via Facebook livestreaming on our Facebook page.

# BOOK STUDY VIA ZOOM ON TUESDAY 6:30 P.M. TO 8 P.M.

There are still copies of "They Like Jesus, But Not the Church" outside pastor Cyndi's office. Join us for a discussion about the cultural perceptions, and misunderstandings, of Church and what it means for our church. See weekly email for the Zoom link.

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Yet, just as back then, we are fond of creating rules and regulations, insiders and outsiders, hierarchies and structure. Each and every time we decide who is in, who is out, we discover God is already with the outsiders. Every time we decide who can preach, or lead, God is already working in and through the people we believe aren't quite good enough. Over and over the Church creates distinctions that God ignores, and blows right past. God continues to love those we don't see as 'good enough.'

As we move forward into this postpandemic life, may we have the courage to love those we've been told not to, those we've been told aren't quite good enough, and even those who make us uncomfortable. May we focus more on how well we love and let others argue over whether that love is OK or deserved. May we remember that God first loved us, even during those times when we were hard to love.

Grateful to serve with you, Pastor Cyndi



#### Family Order Form

### Lodi First Presbyterian Church

See WWW.SHOPWITHSCRIP.COM for a list of ALL vendors. Please CALL & ASK if you have any questions. Most vendors have higher amounts than what is listed. Check out the SPECIALS tab online for short term promotions on higher rates!--Martha 608-220-5592

Name								Customer #	¥			
Check #								Order Date	;			
Product	%	QTY	Total	Product	%	QTY	Tot	al	Product	%	QTY	Total
Ace Hardware \$25.00	4%		\$	iTunes® \$25.00	5%		\$		Qdoba Mexican Grill	7%		\$
Amazon.com \$25.00	2.5%		\$	JCPenney \$25.00	5%		\$		\$25.00 Quality Inn \$50.00	4%		\$
Applebee's® \$25.00	8%		\$	Jo-Ann Fabric and Craft Stores \$25.00	6%		\$		Red Lobster \$25.00	8%		\$
Arby's \$10.00	8%		\$	Kmart \$25.00	4%		\$		Roundys (IL and WI	4%		\$
Barnes & Noble \$25.00	8%		\$	Kohl's \$25.00	4%		\$		only) \$100.00	4%		\$
Bath & Body Works \$25.00	13%		\$	Kwik Trip \$100.00	4%		\$		Roundys (IL and WI only) \$50.00	4%		φ
Bed Bath & Beyond	7%		\$	Kwik Trip \$25.00	4%		\$		Sears \$25.00	4%		\$
\$25.00	4%		\$	Kwik Trip \$50.00	4%		\$		Sentry \$50.00	3%		\$
Best Buy® \$25.00 Best Western	4% 12%		\$ \$	L.L.Bean \$25.00	16%		\$		Shopko \$25.00	3%		\$
Best Western International \$25.00	12%		φ	Lands' End \$25.00	16%		\$		Shutterfly \$25.00	9%		\$
BP \$50.00	1.5%		\$	Macy's \$25.00	10%		\$		Speedway \$25.00	4%		\$
Build-A-Bear Workshop \$25.00	8%		\$	Marathon \$25.00	3%		\$		Staples \$25.00	5%		\$
Burger King \$10.00	4%		\$	Marcus Theatres \$25.00	9%		\$		Starbucks \$25.00	7%		\$
Cabela's \$25.00	11%		\$	Menards \$25.00	3%		\$		Steak 'n Shake \$10.00	8%		\$
Chili's Grill & Bar \$25.00	11%		\$	Michaels \$25.00	4%	-	\$		SUBWAY® Restaurants \$10.00	6%		\$
Comfort Suites \$50.00	4%		\$	Mobil \$50.00	1%		\$		SUBWAY® Restaurants	6%		\$
Copps (WI only) \$100.00	4%		\$	Noodles & Company \$10.00	8%		\$		\$50.00 SuperAmerica \$25.00	4%		\$
Copps (WI only) \$50.00	4%		\$	Office Depot / Office	5%		\$		T.J. Maxx/Marshalls/HomeG	7%		\$
Cousins Subs \$10.00	9%		\$	Max \$25.00 Old Chicago \$25.00	6%		\$		oods \$25.00			
Cracker Barrel \$25.00	8%		\$	Olive Garden ® \$25.00	7.5%		↓ \$		Taco Bell \$10.00	5%		\$
Dairy Queen \$10.00	3%		\$	Outback Steakhouse	8%		↓ \$		Target \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Dick's Sporting Goods \$25.00	8%		\$	\$25.00					Texas Roadhouse \$25.00	8%		\$
525.00 Disney \$25.00	3%		\$	Panera Bread \$25.00	8%		\$		TGI Fridays® \$25.00	9%		\$
Domino's \$10.00	8%		\$	Papa Murphy's Pizza \$10.00	8%		\$		Visa® Five Back™ Gift Card \$50.00	1.25%		\$
Dunkin' Donuts \$25.00	3%		\$	PetSmart \$25.00	5%		\$		Walgreens \$25.00	5%		\$
Family Video \$10.00	12%		\$	Pick 'n Save (WI only) \$100.00	4%		\$		Walmart \$25.00	2.5%		\$
Fandango \$25.00	4%		\$	Pick 'n Save (WI only)	4%		\$		Walmart \$50.00	2.5%		\$
Festival Foods (WI) - Skogens \$25.00	3%		\$	\$50.00 Pier 1 Imports \$25.00	9%		\$		Whole Foods Market \$25.00	3%		\$
Foot Locker \$25.00	8%		\$	Piggly Wiggly (WI, IL only) \$100.00	3%		\$					
GameStop \$25.00	3%		\$	Piggly Wiggly (WI, IL	3%		\$					
Gap \$25.00	14%		\$	only) \$25.00								
GNC \$25.00	8%		\$	Piggly Wiggly (WI, IL only) \$50.00	3%		\$					
Home Depot \$25.00	4%		\$	Pizza Hut (Not AK or HI) \$10.00	8%		\$					
HomeGoods \$25.00	7%		\$	Pizza Ranch \$25.00	8%		\$					
Hotels.com \$100.00	6%		\$	┥└────┛		1			J			

Make Checks Payable To: Lodi First Presbyterian Church Scrip



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# HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN JULY!

We'd like to wish the following people a Happy Birthday! If your birthday is in July and your name is not listed, please let the office know the date of your birthday so that it can be entered in the computer.

7/1	JANE JONES
7/2	Anna Salzman
	CAROL RICHARDS
7/3	RAYMOND SOPHA
7/5	Tom Tritt
7/16	DEANN RICHARDS
7/19	JEREMY
	HARRENSTEIN
7/25	JANA NOLDEN
	HARLIE LECKWEE-
	GJAVENIS
	Amanda Weber
7/27	SAM BECKWITH



# NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

Deadline for the **AUGUST** Newsletter is **WEDNESDAY**, July 21st at 9 a.m.

If you would like an article in the newsletter, you can e-mail the Church office at office@lodifpc.org or leave it on the desk in the church office.

June 2021   S M T W T F S   A T W T F S G<			<mark>y 202</mark>	2		August 2021   S M T W F S   I 2 3 4 5 6 7   I 2 3 4 5 6 7   I 2 3 4 5 6 7   I 2 3 4 5 6 7   I5 16 11 12 13 14   22 23 24 25 26 27   23 30 31 31 31
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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Worship, 9 a.m. Communion Sunday Independence Day	Office Closed		Mid-week Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Worship, 9 a.m.			Mid-week Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Worship, 9 a.m.			Mid-week Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Worship, 9 a.m.			Mid-week Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.			

#### FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

258 Lodi Street Lodi, WI 53555 Phone: 608-592-4310 Fax: 608-592-2332

PASTOR: CYNDI WUNDER

E-Mail address: pastor@lodifpc.org

Choir Director: Position Open Custodian: Lori Harrenstein Church Secretary: Pat Craig Financial Secretary: John Griffing Church Secretary's Office Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

> WORSHIP SERVICE Sunday 9:00 a.m. Nursery Available

SUNDAY SCHOOL (DURING THE SCHOOL YEAR) 10:15 a.m.

Newsletter Graphic Design: Jim Salzman

#### THE SESSION Class of 2021

Class of 2020 Dudley Mehltretter Diane Lukins DeAnn Richards Jean Spataro Ron Nelson

Class of 2022 Herb Damsteegt

Class of 2022

Patty Seiler

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Jeff Leckwee DeAnn Richards, Clerk of Session

#### **BOARD OF DEACONS**

Class of 2020 Marcia Brown Sandy Deselle Dave Heebner

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Class of 2021 Gale Nelson Bobbie Hanson Laurie Fryman



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 258 LODI STREET** LODI, WI 53555