



# In Touch with FPCR



October 2024

Loved Ones!

Wow! What an amazing month September has been. It is always wonderful and a little bit amazing how quickly things seem to move in life. Yet, we know that God is in charge of it all.

October is shaping up to be another wonderful ministry-filled month. We continue to support the food pantry. We will be collecting for the denominational offering called *Peace and Global Witness*. This important offering addresses systems of conflict and injustice across the world.

Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize

up to 25% of this offering for peacemaking efforts that align with their passion and ours will go to the Slinger Food Pantry.

There is a seasonal aspect to life that closely mirrors the seasons of the year. We are in the middle of a wonderful season of busyness but just because we are busy, we do not need to be burdened. Jesus says many wonderful things, and one of my favorite Jesus sayings is:

*“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”*

Growing up I tended to think this meant Jesus wanted us to take it easy, or to live a life of leisure. I always wondered why that never seemed to manifest itself. Of course, that is not what Jesus is saying at all. Jesus is telling us in this moment that if we ground the work we do, whether for the church, or our families, and even our community, in God we will find not a life of ease but a life of joyful work.

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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

Mark your calendars to attend FPCR services each Sunday in October: **October 6** (World Communion Sunday) and **October 13, 20, and 27**.

The **FPCR website** contains up-to-date announcements. Check it if you have questions about a service or deadline.  
[www.FirstPresbyofRichfield.com](http://www.FirstPresbyofRichfield.com)

**REMEMBER TO LOVE ALWAYS AND ALL WAYS!**

## UPCOMING SERVICES

*All are welcome for upcoming 10 am Sunday Services by Cathy Manthei.*

**OCTOBER 6**

**WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY**

MESSAGE: **TENANT'S OF GODS BLESSINGS**

**OCTOBER 13**

MESSAGE: **STICKER SHOCK**

**OCTOBER 20**

MESSAGE: **AMBITION**

**OCTOBER 27**

MESSAGE: **DO I REALLY WANT TO SEE?**

*Updated information is posted on the website: [www.FirstPresbyofRichfield](http://www.FirstPresbyofRichfield)*

### ELDERS AND BOARD OF DEACONS

#### Elders

Debbie Heppe  
Jackson Kujawa  
Melissa Kujawa  
Ken Schmidt  
Cheryl Weber

#### Clerk of Session

Elaine Schmidt

#### Deacons

Cathy Romanski  
Rick Romanski

## LIST OF NEEDS REMAINS THE SAME FOR THE SLINGER FOOD PANTRY



The Pantry continues to work on replenishing a low inventory. The individuals who accept the food and supplies you donate are always VERY grateful to see **Rick and Cathy Romanski** pull up, grab a grocery cart, and begin to unload all of the “goodies” you have donated. On September 30, **236** items were delivered!

In addition to your food/supplies donations, a check was sent to the Slinger Food Pantry on September 30 for **\$440**. Thank you to each and every one of you for your generosity!

The picture above was taken recently. Look at all of the soup, shampoo, toothpaste, snack cakes, tuna packets and other staples you donated over the past couple of Sundays! Certainly, as a group, FPCR fills a void in the cabinets of a variety of individuals.

The list of needs for October remains the same with cereal and soup being the most needed:

- **Cereal - any kind**
- **Chunky Soups**
- **Shampoo**
- **Conditioner**
- **Deodorant**
- **Tuna - Small Packages**
- **Snacks for Children's Lunches**  
(examples: Little Debbie's, small muffins, etc.)

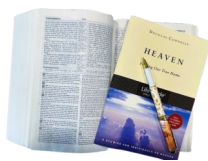
You are welcome to donate from the list above; otherwise, any other items you wish to donate will be gratefully accepted.

**Cash donations** are always welcome and appreciated! Please either send a check payable to FPCR to PO Box 22, Richfield, WI 53076. Include SFP in the memo of your check.

OR

Make a cash donation at the church by placing your donation in the offering plate using the special envelope found on the narthex table. Again, mark SFP in the memo section of your check.

## NEXT BIBLE STUDY - OCTOBER 23, 6:30 PM



Chapter 3 of the *Heaven Study Guide* will be discussed on **October 23** at **6:30 pm** and the scripture plus the Guide's questions promise to be interesting and encouraging.

Entitled **Rapture Ahead!** the study focuses on 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 and encourages the promise of Christ's return for his followers.

<sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who

*sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. <sup>14</sup>For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.*

A link to this online Zoom meeting will be sent on Sunday, October 20. If you are in need of a study guide or if this is the first time you are participating, please contact Elaine Schmidt.

**See you October 23 on Zoom!**

## REST IN PEACE, RICHARD SCHMIDT



Daryl Schmidt with Richard at Daryl's confirmation in 1989.

Sadly, First Presbyterian Church of Richfield recently lost another member. **Richard Schmidt** died on September 11, 2024, at his home, the victim of a farm accident. **Pastor Cathy Manthei** presided over the memorial service and burial on September 22 and 23.

Richard was baptized and confirmed at FPCR. He went on to serve the church as a Deacon, Trustee, and Elder. He participated in many FPCR "fix it" projects throughout the years.

Richard grew up and lived on the family farm along with his brother Michael. Together they raised crops and tended cattle. He was a perfectionist about his work and was often seen with a bucket tidying errant weeds

or picking single rocks and stones by hand. Richard loved the land and his chosen vocation. He often said that farming gave him something to look forward to each day.

In addition to farming, Richard liked visiting with family and friends. Many have enjoyed an impromptu visit with Richard that may actually have lasted for multiple hours. He loved to "catch up", talk about his farming ideas, share stories about the children of his friends, and give a helping hand when needed. At the time of his death, he was excited to be signed up to attend his 50th class reunion from Slinger High School which, unfortunately, was held on September 14.

Richard was the son of Donald and Bernice Schmidt. He is the nephew of **Ken and Elaine Schmidt**, brother of **Bonnie, Michael**, and **Karen**. He is the godfather of **Daryl Schmidt** and **Maya Kubsad** (Karen and Shrikant's daughter).

To view his obituary, visit <https://bit.ly/RSchmidt>.



Celebrating Elmer Schmidt's birthday in April 1986.  
Seated: Elaine, Elmer, Donald, Bernice.  
Standing: Diann, Debbie, Daryl, Doug, and Richard.

## OCTOBER 6 - WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY



**World Communion Sunday** will be celebrated at FPCR on **October 6**. This particular Sunday celebrates our oneness in Christ with our brothers and sisters around the world.

Appropriately, the annual **Peace and Global Witness Offering** will be accepted as a way of continuing the ancient Christian practice of sharing what we have with those in need. This special offering is sponsored by

PC(USA). FPCR retains 25% for the Slinger Food Pantry; 25% will be mailed to the Synod of Lakes and Prairies for ministries of peace and reconciliation; and 50% will be sent to Presbyterian Church (USA)/ Presbyterian Mission to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness. The Peace and Global Witness offering will also be collected on **October 13**.



*"The Lord will indeed give what is good,  
and our land will yield its harvest."* Psalm 85:12



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to the following individuals with birthdays in **October**. We wish you many years of God's blessings.

**3—Noah Deibert**

**12—Cathy Romanski**

**24—Mark Manthei**

**25—Kathleen Schmidt**



**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY** to **Mark and Cathy Manthei** who are celebrating their anniversary on **October 22**. We wish you many more years of God's blessings.

**HELP THE ENVIRONMENT AND FPCR'S BUDGET . . .**

**REQUEST AN ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER**

Please email **FirstPresbyofRichfield@gmail.com** with your preferred email address so we are able to send you an electronic copy of this newsletter rather than a paper copy.



**THE VISION COMMITTEE**

Facilitated by **Keith Clark**, the Vision Committee will meet immediately after the service on Sunday, **October 6**, to begin their work. Input you may have for the future of FPCR is appreciated. Please see **Keith** or **Cathy Manthei** to discuss your thoughts and ideas.

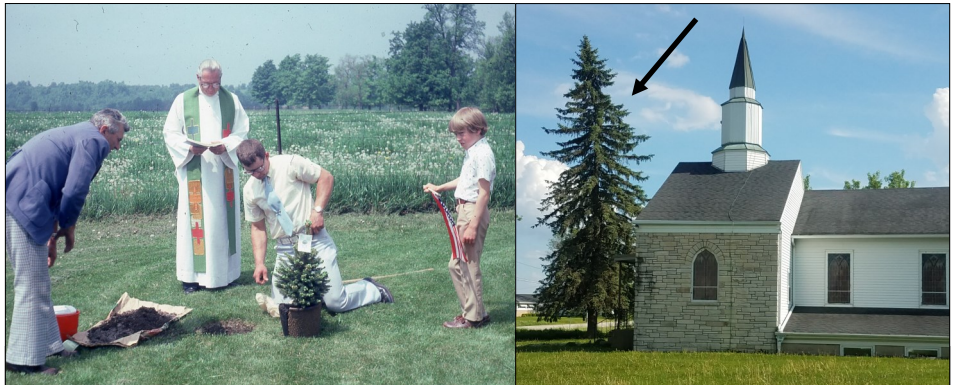
**First Presbyterian Church of Richfield**

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Richfield, WI 53076

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Richfield, WI 53076

**Website:**  
<https://www.FirstPresbyofRichfield.com>

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[FirstPresbyofRichfield@gmail.com](mailto:FirstPresbyofRichfield@gmail.com)



**A Blast from the Past From the FPCR Archives**

**Top left:** On June 30, 1982, FPCR planted a new tree. Harvey Schmidt, Rev. Ed Smith, Leslie Schmidt, and Daryl Schmidt placed a cute little pine to the left of the sidewalk.

**Top right:** Forty-two years later that "cute little pine" is still growing but is taking up a bit more space.

**Bottom:** The congregation members that participated were: Leslie Schmidt, Henry Rosenthal, Harvey Schmidt, Nancy Schmidt, Viola Rosenthal, Carol Smith, Rev. Ed Smith. Front row: Daryl Schmidt holding flag, Doug Schmidt, Debbie Schmidt, Diann Schmidt, Elmer Schmidt. Behind: Karen Schmidt (peeking over Rev. Smith's shoulder), Annette Schmidt, Kathleen Schmidt with Tony Schmidt behind her and Dorothy Schmidt in front of Tony, Elaine Schmidt, Richard Schmidt peeking around Alice Schoeni, Allen Schoeni, Scott Schoeni, and Walter Hembel. (Picture by Loraine Schoeni)



***"Be still and know that I am God!  
I am exalted among the nations,  
exalted on the earth."  
The Lord of hosts is with us; our  
stronghold is the God of Jacob.***

**PSALM 46:11-12 ELAINE SCHOENI'S FAVORITE SCRIPTURE**

**WE ARE CALLED TO FAITHFUL LIVING**

*(Continued from page 1)*

We are not called to live easy lives; we are called to faithful living. That faithful living includes not only going to church and being involved in the life of FPCR but also recognizing that all we have and all we are is God's to begin with. Faithful living includes giving thanks to God at the end of a busy day for the places where you saw his grace shining through. Jesus reminds us in this passage from Matthew that there will be work to do but you need not be overwhelmed by it because Jesus is with us every step of the way and as much as we desire to lead lives of faith for Jesus, Jesus will always be faithful to us.

Keep Praying—be grateful—see you in church!!

Cathy