

Year 190 at FPCD – A Year of Celebration!

Letter from Pastor KJ



First Presbyterian Church of DuPage kicked off the year with a huge celebration party to recognize God’s faithfulness over the past 190 years. The celebration brought in over 150 community members as well as guest speakers and dignitaries. In the last 12 months, God has continued to shine in and through our community; it is such a great joy to serve as Pastor here.

A huge word of thanks to all of you wonderful members and friends of FPCD. I can’t say enough about how you serve with faithfulness, hope, and love as can be seen in the pictures and stories told in this recap.



In the coming years, we are committed to living out our vision statement through inter-generational, inter-cultural, community-based ministry and worship. I am so excited about the ways we are already living into this call and hopeful for how the Holy Spirit will motivate us in new initiatives. May the Lord Jesus bless our journey together for the next 190 years! – Rev. KJ Norris

Vision Statement: *First Presbyterian Church of DuPage is a diverse Christian community who lives by Faith, is sustained by Hope, and shines the light of God’s Love into the world.*

FPCD Call: *To live out the FPCD Vision Statement through inter-generational, inter-cultural, community-based ministry and worship.*

Community-Based Ministry

We are committed to ministry with and for all community members, whether or not they attend worship. This year our community-based ministries have flourished in three ways: through community events, partnerships, and outreach.



This year we hosted a variety of community events including a garage sale, book sale, bake sales, music events with the Swingset Big Band, and a women’s mental health conference.



We have increased our partnerships to include office space for Hope UCC Church and Red Cross CPR classes. We have ongoing relationships with Boy Scout Troop 75, The Church of Ghana Trinity Congregation, Giant Steps School for students with autism, and Jamie McGee Elementary.



This year’s Easter Egg Hunt was one of the biggest outreach events in recent memory, attracting over 75 families. We are members of the Bolingbrook Chamber of Commerce and attended the Bolingbrook Picnic for the second year in a row, working to renew our visibility in the community.



Food-Focused Ministry

First Presbyterian Church of DuPage has a long history of working to end hunger in our region. In our 190th year we continued that mission with programming including creating food baskets at Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter for families in need at Jamie McGee School and Angel Tree giving.

In addition, one of our community Girl Scouts presented her concept for a Micro-Pantry to the Session. We received her idea with joy, and she created it to become a Girl Scout Gold Award Winner.



And then this spring, members created a Community Garden in our back yard.



Together the Micro-pantry and Community Garden are flourishing! They provide ongoing connection and helpful distribution of food in the community.

Building Projects

Our 190th year brought exciting changes to the building. We installed a new “brain” for our heating and cooling system. This new installation works like a brain for our building, giving us information about the temperature and condition of the building and then sending out temperature commands to each room. Our hope is that this new system will save the church money on our electric and heating bills for decades to come.



In addition, a tree fell in our backyard and to protect our neighbors from danger, we removed 7 more dead trees. We started a Building Fund and are asking members and regular attenders to support more projects like these.



By the Numbers:

5 New Members
3 Confirmation Students
\$236,000 Minimum Annual Budget for 2024
\$1,200 Grant Received for Youth Ministry
50 Worshippers Weekly

Growth and Fellowship

This was truly a year for celebration! We began with a dunk tank and bouncy house and have continued to laugh all year long.

Every month members and friends gather for healthy activities of biking and hiking at 4th Saturday Fun. The Deacons hosted a plethora of whole family activities including bingo, western night, and a Christmas Dinner.

Our Bible Studies and retreats provide opportunities to deepen both our faith in God and our relationships with one another. And coming in July, we will host our first VBS in 10 years. Truly God is good!



More Great Things Coming!

VBS – Weird Animals- July 31 -Aug 2
Backyard Bonfires – Fridays, Aug 2 & Sept 20 at 7:30
Presbyterian Peacemaker –Wed, Oct. 2 at 6:30pm
Trunk or Treat – Sun, Oct 27 at 4-6pm
Congregational Meeting – Sun, Nov 24 after church

