

First Presbyterian Church of Normal, IL

FIRST FOCUS

March 2026



New Year, New Deacons

It's a new year, and you may have a new deacon! As new deacons began their terms of service, our flocks have been updated. Your 2026 deacon should be reaching out to you soon! If you need to know who your deacon is, please contact Cheryl Hoepker at (choepker@comcast.net) to find out.

Blessings Women's Ministry

Calling all women to Bible Study on Monday evenings, 6-7pm, now through May 18. We'll discuss the Book of Romans using a study guide that can be purchased for \$10. Our lively discussions have been meaningful.

Monetary donations are being collected for Home Sweet Home's The Bridge Community. The next social event will be on March 21: carpooling for brunch at Common Grounds in Gridley. Please sign up on the website for the Bible Study and for all social events as they are posted. Contact Irene DenBesten or Ann Lamkey for further information.

MOWERS NEEDED

The Property committee is seeking volunteers to join our mowing team for the upcoming season. Each volunteer will be responsible for mowing and trimming during a 2-week period assigned to them. The church will provide a John Deere riding lawn mower, push mower, trimmers and fuel. We try to schedule volunteers for dates that work best with their personal schedule. Please respond to Dave Seyller or John Anderson, and include dates that you won't be available this Spring/Summer/Fall.



Know Your Deacons

Class of 2026

Mary Jo Hillyer: Funeral Receptions
Mark MacDonald: Communion
Cody Walker: Moderator
Sharry Zimmerman

Class of 2027

Ann Beck: Care & Share
Hannah Hogue: Partners in Healing
Becca Rice: Safe Harbor
Kai White

Class of 2028

Betsy Blanks: Blood Drives
Corey Brown: Secretary
Cheryl Hoepker: Flock Lists
Julia Nelson White:
Kemmerer Village



PRAIRIE GRANT RECEIVED!



Did you hear the good news? The Illinois Prairie Community Foundation has approved our grant request for \$3,500 to build out the new prairie. The grant covers expenses for trees for shade near the entrances to the walking path, large flat boulders for seating, and interpretive signs so walkers can learn more about the plants. We're grateful to the Illinois Prairie Community Foundation for the assistance with this project.

You can learn more about our Native Prairie on our website: firstpresnormal.org>Resources>Green Team.

The Wired Word - Weekly Discussion Class

The Wired Word Sunday Morning discussion class considers a weekly current event or cultural topic and explores how it relates to Scripture, encouraging thought-provoking discussions on how we can apply God's word to our everyday lives. With each week's lesson being independent of the others, feel free to come any time. This class will be offered each week in March between worship services. Contact Pastor Karol for more information or if you'd like to use the material for your small group.



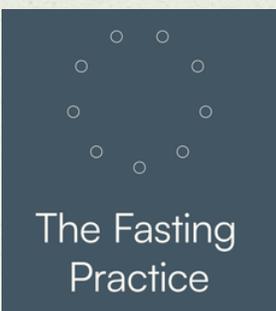
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To find these and thousands of other video studies for individuals, kids, families, and groups:

- Scan the QR code to the right or text FPCNORM to 49775
- or visit app.rightnowmedia.org/join/firstpresnormal
- Contact Pastor Karol if you have any questions



RightNow Media March Featured Resource

The Fasting Practice by John Mark Comer, 4 Sessions, Avg 28 min

Fasting is one of the most essential and powerful of all the practices of Jesus and, arguably, the single most neglected one in the modern, Western church. The Fasting Practice will train you in this ancient discipline, integrating your whole body into life with God. Session themes: offering, holiness, prayer, and justice. Free study guide provided.

IT'S TIME TO GET PLUGGED IN



HERE'S WHAT'S GOING ON

Congregational Care Ministry

The Congregational Care Ministry is now offered at our First Presbyterian Church! At the heart of the church is the need to care for and walk alongside our church family members when they are experiencing challenging times. Congregational Care Ministers are trained volunteers who help with hospital calls, support groups/classes, pastoral listening and other care needs. They work with the pastors and deacons when the need for more long-term support is needed. To learn more about a Congregational Care Minister, please contact Ann Lamkey at 217-253-4406 or annlamkey@yahoo.com.



The Birthday List

If you would like to be added or removed from the birthday list, please contact Anne Lunt at the church office to be added or removed. Thank you!

alunt@firstpresnormal.org
(309) 452-4459

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Maddox Pate	3/1	Sharon Cunningham	3/6	Kim Toulon	3/19	Donald Bailey	3/29
Kristin Swearingen	3/2	Barb Lemmon	3/8	Andy Cooney	3/19	Cale Hinthorn	3/31
Chelsey Smith	3/3	Rachel Sabick	3/10	Desmond Moran	3/19		
Sophia Bailey	3/4	Margaret Merritt	3/10	Erica Young	3/19		
Sandra Stowers	3/4	John Ten Haken	3/12	Will Hancock	3/20		
Gigi Miles	3/5	Natalie Hobbs	3/12	Doreen Horney	3/20		
Jerry Parsons	3/5	Jennifer Shuck	3/14	Gary Beck	3/25		
Nathan Brent	3/6	David Terrinoni	3/17	Bob Beerup	3/27		
Erin Stombaugh	3/6	Byron Blair	3/18	Jessica Briggs	3/27		
Helenann Gray	3/6	Lea Spinks	3/18	Heidi Hancock	3/28		



MARCH CARE & SHARE

FOR HOME SWEET HOME MINISTRIES

Shelter Needs:

- Bottled Water*
- Kleenex
- Disposable Razors*
- Gluten Free Bread*
- Crackers*
- New Blankets*
- Hand Towels*

Kitchen Needs:

- Disposable Water Cups*
- Ground Beef*
- Ziplock snack-size bags
- Bottled Water*
- Styrofoam Coffee Cups*
- Coffee*
- Paper Towels*

Junction Needs:

- Liquid Coffee Creamer
- Napkins
- Coffee
- Sugar Packets
- 8oz Styrofoam Cups

**Donations accepted
M-F 8:30AM-3PM and
Sunday mornings.
Place items (urgent
items marked *) in the
shopping carts at the
College or Hershey
entrance. Thank you!**

New Home Starter Kits:

- Brooms & Dustpans
- Mop & Bucket
- Rags or Microfiber Cloths
- Clorox Wipes
- Floor Cleaner
- Vacuums
- Towels
- Shower Curtains



EASTER SAVE THE DATES!



**5:30PM DINNER
6:30PM SERVICE**



6:30PM SERVICE



**8:30AM & 11AM
SERVICES**