



The Portage Presbyterian Church

May, 2025

"The Church is a people - and we are the Church!"



Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ and peace!

John Knox Presbyterian Women's "Spring Gathering" @ PPC

PPC's Presbyterian Women's Group will be hosting the John Knox Presbyterian Women Spring Gathering on Saturday, May 3rd.

Our speaker will be *Sara Shaver* from *Sleep in Heavenly Peace* which is a non-profit organization that builds beds for children in need. We will be collecting new twin size bedding to help with this project. A tub is provided for donations in Parry Hall.

Registration is at 9:30 a.m. A luncheon will be served for \$8. As a part of the "Spring Gathering" we will share in the Celebration of the Lord's Supper and special music will be provided by our own Fred and Judy Taylor, with Lee Roundy.

If you have any questions, please let Donna Mohr know.

"Confirmation For All" Experience Concludes

During the Season of Lent, we offered a unique learning experience for an "intergenerational" group. This **"Confirmation For All"** was an opportunity to study the **"basics of the Christian faith"** while interacting with one another on the journey.

Our **"Confirmation For All"** concluded on April 29.

Chance Cross, along with his parents Nicky and Troy shared in this experience these past months.

Looking For "Ministry Participants"

We are seeking "participants" who would like to participate in important ministry opportunities as we move into the new year.

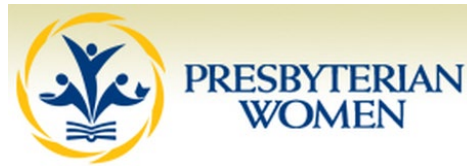
Some of the opportunities include:

- ✓ Updating the Church Sign
- ✓ Operating the "Screens" for worship
- ✓ Operating the "livestream" video for worship

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While these may sound a bit "intimidating" - those who volunteer will be provided a "training time" in preparation.

We are hoping to have enough people that we can "set up a rotation" of folks!
If you have questions - or are interested - please contact Pastor Dave soon!



We are also looking for donations of travel size shampoo and regular size deodorant for our hygiene bags we distribute in the community. There is a basket on the table in Parry Hall for your donations.

WOW! Helping To Make A Difference - for Lions' Camp!



Brekkan's "goal" was \$100.00 - which would enable him to donate items for the benefit of those who attend the Lions' Camp.

If you would like to contribute to the Lions' Camp fund - you can still do so on Sunday, May 4 - or contact Tara Bandekow. Thank you!

Upcoming Worship Services

Sunday, May 4 - "Traditional" Worship Service - 10:05 a.m.

The Third Sunday of Eastertide - Celebration of the Lord's Supper
Luke 24:13-35

Sunday, May 11 - "Traditional" Worship Service - 10:05 a.m.

The Fourth Sunday of Eastertide
Luke 24:36-48

Sunday, May 18 - "Informal" Worship Service - 10:05 a.m.

The Fifth Sunday of Eastertide
Matthew 28:16-20

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Sunday, May 25 - "Traditional" Worship Service - 10:05 a.m.

The Sixth Sunday of Eastertide

Sunday, June 1 - Traditional" Worship Service - 10:05 a.m.

The Seventh Sunday of Eastertide

"Celebrating our Graduates"

Acts 1:3-11

Sunday, June 8 - Traditional" Worship Service - 10:05 a.m.

Pentecost Sunday

"Confirmation Sunday"

Acts 2:1-21

PPC's Sunday Worship - also on "YouTube"

Here's "another option" for "online" worship experiences!

You can go to the PPC "YouTube" Channel!

Here's the "web" information -

<https://www.youtube.com/@portagepresbyterianchurch2652>

The videos on "YouTube" are not live streamed -
they are added to the PPC YouTube Channel during the following week.

IF you would like to receive the "weekly worship materials" -
the Sunday Worship Bulletin & Children's Bulletin -
by email- please contact Pastor Dave.

"Readers" for Holy Week

We appreciate the time and effort of_ all of our "Holy Week" readers -
whose participation helped to provide our inspirational worship experiences!

Thank you

Debby Capener - Fred Taylor - Harlan Buchanan - Kathy Hankins

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"Deacon Doings"

The Deacons continue to be a "busy group"

- ✓ Planning for Communion Sundays.
- ✓ Hosting a "fellowship hour" after worship on April 27.
- ✓ Distributing flowers from Easter.
- ✓ And making plans to visit our homebound folks on May 10, bringing May baskets to hang on door knobs.

As always - all "**loose offerings**" (*coins and cash*) - on "Communion Sundays" - will be given to the Deacons to help purchase communion supplies and the Upper Room devotionals. Again, that "loose change" is always welcome! Thank you for your generosity.



Upcoming dates for "Stocking Shelves @ the Food Pantry" will be [Wednesday, May 21](#) and by the Bellmore Family on [Wednesday, May 28](#).

We usually begin @ 4:00 p.m. Volunteers are always welcome to come and help this community resource provide a necessary program for those in need in our community. Please contact Pastor Dave if you are planning to come and help, in case there is a change in the schedule. *Come and help make a difference in the community!*

Just a reminder - there is a "Little Food Pantry" in front of Westminster Center. Anyone can place items in this box - and we receive donations from PPC folks as well as those from the community..Please feel free to provide dry goods and non perishables not affected by the temperature.

"Summer Lunch for Kids" - Planning Group

This summer the "Portage Summer Lunch Program for Kids" program will be going into its 12th year. And we are looking for "volunteers" to be a part of the "Planning Group."

This Planning Group will be reviewing the past year's program as well as making plans for the summer of 2025.

We would love to have you be a part of this important effort here in Portage.

If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Pastor Dave.



New Directions 4-H club is a very active group of young people from the area that meet together to share ideas, work on projects and learn great leadership skills.

The New Directions 4-H club meets @ PPC on the 3rd Sunday of each month, beginning @ 4:00 p.m.

PPC is pleased to be able to support the efforts of 4-H and the New Directions Club by offering a meeting space and support for their good work.

Jen Martens serves as the advisor for the New Directions Club.



Scout Activities / Events

The Scouts have been "out and about" this past month
visiting the fire station - checking out medflight
and attending Merit Badge Clinics
in addition to working on "scouting skills"

We celebrate the Scouts, Leaders
and the Scout Program here @ PPC!

Important "Information and Activities" Around Portage



"Kwik Trip" Car Wash Cards are still available!

For \$36.00 / card, you will receive 5 "Ultimate" car washes
(normally a cost of \$50.00)

If you would like to purchase a "Kwik Trip Car Wash Card" -
contact Pastor Dave.



To Contact The Portage Presbyterian Church

Phone: 608-742-6006

Church Office email: office@portagepresbyterian.com

Pastor Dave email: pastordave@portagepresbyterian.com

Website: www.portagepresbyterian.com

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/Portage-Presbyterian-Church-155581354519952

YouTube Channel: https://www.youtube.com/@portagepresbyterianchurch2652

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It is "easy" **to make a "financial" offering**  
for the work and ministry here @ Portage Presbyterian Church

You may choose to ....



Mail it to the Church Office

or

Drop it in the "mail slot"



or



Use the "online giving" option on "PPC's Website"

or

scan the "QR Code" which will take you to the "Online Giving" Portal



*Your financial support for the work and ministry of God in and through the  
Portage Presbyterian Church is greatly appreciated!*

## PPC's Church Officers - 2025

Serving God and God's People  
With "Energy, Intelligence, Imagination and Love"

### Ruling Elders / Session

Moderator - Pastor Dave Hankins

Clerk of Session - Alex Harvey

Jarrett Foster (2025)

Tara Bandekow (2026)

John Crammond (2027)

Nancy Schaper (2025)

Nancy Beasley (2026)

Jean Oren (2027)

Kathy Raimer (2026)

### Deacons

Moderator of Deacons - Peggy Alf-Sechtig

Secretary - Liz Bellmore

Treasurer - Vickie Kastner

Peggy Alf (2025)

Vickie Kastner (2026)

Alex Harvey (2027)

Joyce Meredith (2025)

Joyce Oehlhof (2026)

Debby Capener (2027)

Liz Bellmore (2025)

## Community Vacation Bible School -2025

Once again, Portage Presbyterian Church is one of the sponsors for the "Community Vacation Bible School" here in Portage.

The Community VBS will be held the week of July 28-August 1 - 8:30-Noon.

This year, however, the VBS will be held at St. Mary's School.

There are some exciting things being planned - and we hope that many young people will be a part of this experience.

The cost for the VBS will be only \$5.00 / child (*with a \$10.00 / family total*).

"Older youth" and Adult volunteers are also welcome to take part!

Registration for the VBS will be "online" this year.

For more information, please see the "flyer" included with the newsletter.

*If you have questions, please get in touch with Pastor Dave.*



## Community Vacation Bible School - "Fund Raiser"

Join the 2025 VBS "Crew" at Culvers on Monday, May 19

*for a "VBS Fund Raiser"*

5:00-8:00 p.m.

Come hang out - eat - and help support the 2025 Community VBS

All funds raised help to support the program - purchase supplies  
& keep the "registration fee" at an "unbelievably low price" of \$5.00 / youth.



EXPLORE MOUNTAINS OF FUN!  
PORTAGE COMMUNITY VBS PRESENTS...

**TRUE NORTH**  
Trusting Jesus in a Wild World

New Location: St. Mary School  
Dates: July 28-August 1  
Time: 8.30am-12 Noon  
Cost: \$5/child or \$10/Family

Ages 4-entering 6th grade are welcome.  
Volunteers needed! Seeking 7th-12 grade & adults.  
Use qr code to Register or sign-up to Volunteer.

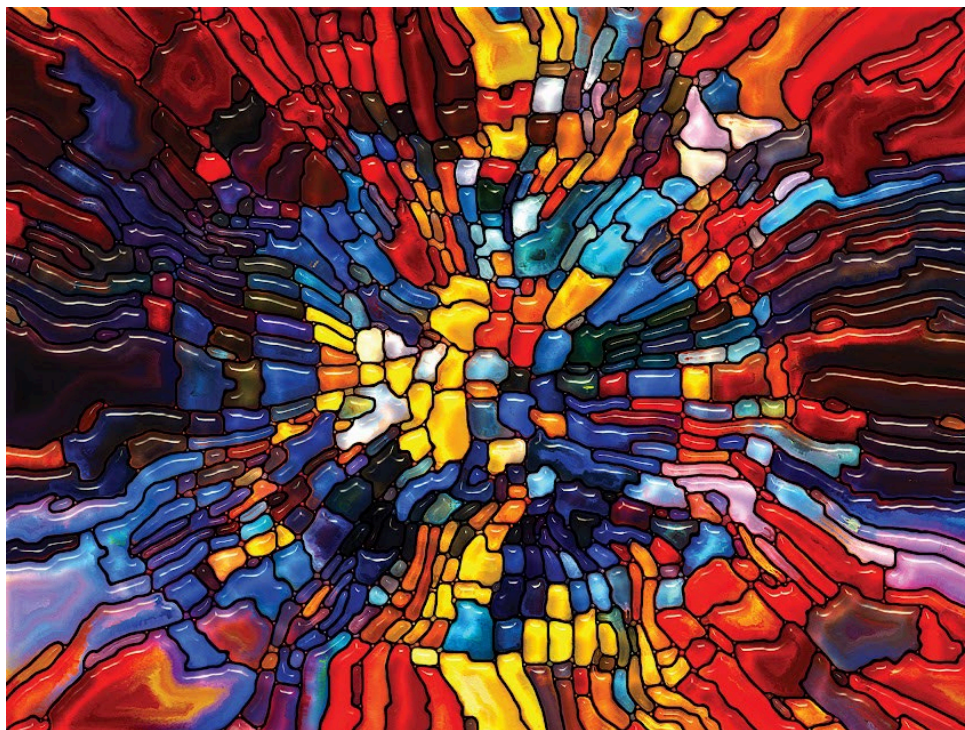
*Register Now*

WEBSITE: [VBSPRO.EVENTS/P/784A02](https://vbspro.events/p/784A02)

[portage.wi.communityvbs@gmail.com](mailto:portage.wi.communityvbs@gmail.com) | 608.566.7021

Sponsored by: Bethlehem Lutheran Church, St. John Henry Newman Pastorate, Briggsville-Moundville UMC, Portage UMC, & Portage Presbyterian Church





### The Pentecost Offering

unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world.

Psalm 71 testifies that a foundation of faith established during childhood helps ensure lifelong faith and service.

The patterns and lessons established during these formative years continue to bear fruit throughout a person's life.

By receiving the Pentecost Offering,  
you are nurturing the faith of children, youth, and young adults.

In order to support the Pentecost Offering  
you may use the "regular offering envelope" - with a note for  
The Pentecost Offering.



## PENTECOST SPECIAL OFFERINGS

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CHILDREN AT RISK • YOUTH • YOUNG ADULTS