Fox River Congregational Church
the church in the woods

Worship at Fox River

November 22, 2026

Click below to watch online
https://tinyurl.com/FoxRiverLive

Prelude

Invitation to Worship

***Congregation Sings**

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;
All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.
God our Maker doth provide for our wants to be supplied;
Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field, fruit unto His praise to yield;
Wheat and tares together sown unto joy or sorrow grown.
First the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear;
Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take His harvest home;
From His field shall in that day all offenses purge away,
Give His angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast;
But the fruitful ears to store in His garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come, bring Thy final harvest home;
Gather Thou Thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,
There, forever purified, in Thy presence to abide;
Come, with all Thine angels come, raise the glorious harvest home.

Welcome & Local Happenings — **Dave Baxter**

*Congregation Sings

For The Beauty of the Earth

For the beauty of the earth, For the glory of the skies,
For the love which from our birth, Over and around us lies.

Refrain
Lord of all, to Thee we raise,
This our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour, Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower, Sun and moon, and stars of light.

Refrain

For the joy of human love, Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above, For all gentle thoughts and mild.

Refrain

For Thy Church, that evermore, Lifteth holy hands above,
Offering upon every shore, Her pure sacrifice of love.

Refrain

For Thyself, best Gift Divine, To our race so freely given,
For that great, great love of Thine, Peace on earth and joy in heaven.

Refrain

Celebrating the Pastoral Ministry of Rev. Jacquie Quirk

Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Meditation Offertory Video		Karl Hitzemann
Doxology		Carmen Nickerson & Karl Hitzemann
Prayer of Dedication		
Scripture	Psalm 100 & Colossians 3:15-17	Kathy Trindl

Special Music	Room At My Table (Mike Wilson)	Carmen Nickerson & The FRCC Band
Message	ThanksLiving: More Than a Day	Pastor Lonnie

*Congregation Sings

Now Thank We All Our God

Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done, in whom His world rejoices;
Who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in His grace, and guide us when perplexed;
And free us from all ills, in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given;
The Son and him who reigns with them in highest heaven;
The one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore;
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

Benediction

Postlude



Message by Pastor Lonnie for November 22

ThanksLiving: More Than a Day

Message Synopsis

Thanksgiving is more than a holiday on the calendar; it is an invitation to embrace a way of life. While we traditionally set aside one day to count our blessings, Scripture challenges us to cultivate a spirit of gratitude every day, in every circumstance. Drawing from the Jewish traditions of prayer that shaped Jesus' life and the Apostle Paul's encouragement to rejoice always, this message explores how thankfulness can transform our attitudes, strengthen our faith, and deepen our relationships. Gratitude isn't simply about appreciating life's blessings when things are going well. It is about recognizing God's presence and grace even in life's challenges, disappointments, and uncertainties. We will discover that genuine thanksgiving becomes ThanksLiving when our gratitude moves beyond words into faithful action, generosity, and service to others. After all, the greatest expression of gratitude is not simply thanking God for what we have received, but using what God has given us to make a difference in the lives of others.

Giving Thanks This Thanksgiving

A Celebration of Gratitude, Faith, and Family

Scripture Readings

"Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever. His faithfulness continues through all generations." - Psalm 100:4–5

"Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances. For this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." - 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18

A Thought for Thanksgiving

As we look around this table, we are reminded that some of God's most precious gifts are sitting right beside us.

The laughter we share, the stories we tell, the memories we treasure, and the love that connects us are blessings beyond measure.

We also remember those who cannot be with us today, holding them close in our hearts.

And as we give thanks for what we have, may we never forget those who have less, those who are lonely, and those who are struggling.

The greatest expression of gratitude is not simply saying, "Thank you," but living in ways that become a blessing to others.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious and loving God,

On this Thanksgiving Day, we come before you with grateful hearts.

Thank you for the gift of life, for the beauty of your creation, and for the countless blessings that surround us, both seen and unseen.

Thank you for the food before us, the family and friends gathered around us, and the love that binds us together.

We are grateful for the laughter that brightens our days, the memories that warm our hearts, and the faith that sustains us through life's uncertainties.

Thank you for walking beside us through every season of life, in moments of joy and celebration, and in times of difficulty and sorrow.

We remember with love those who are not with us today. May treasured memories remind us that love does not end with absence.

Lord, give us hearts that are generous, spirits that are compassionate, and eyes that recognize the needs of others.

Help us remember that our blessings are not simply gifts to enjoy, but opportunities to share your goodness with the world.

Bless this home and all who gather here. Fill our hearts with peace, our conversations with kindness, and our lives with renewed purpose.

And when this Thanksgiving Day has passed, may our gratitude remain—not simply in the words we speak, but in the lives we live.

For every blessing received, every challenge overcome, and every promise yet to unfold, we give you thanks.

In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, we pray.

Amen.

THIS WEEK AT FOX RIVER

For Sunday, November 22, 2026 • Worship at 9:30 a.m.



WEDNESDAY

ThanksLiving: More Than a Day

POST IDEA

Move from counting blessings to sharing them. Scripture connections: Psalm 100:4–5 and 1 Thessalonians 5:16–18.

GRAPHIC WORDING

ThanksLiving: More Than a Day • What if gratitude became a way of life? • Sunday, November 22 • 9:30 a.m.

CAPTION • READY TO POST

After the leftovers are gone and the holiday is over, what happens to our thankfulness?

This Sunday, Pastor Lonnie's message, ThanksLiving: More Than a Day, explores gratitude that becomes generosity, service, and everyday care. We can notice God's presence even in an uncertain season, while being honest about what's hard and whom we're missing.

Bring your joys, your questions, and your real life to Fox River Congregational Church, November 22 at 9:30 a.m. What might change if we lived our thanks all week long?



THURSDAY

Thank it. Share it.

THE CONNECTION

Gratitude can become something we do. A gift we enjoy—friendship, food, or time—can inspire a way to care for someone else.

ASK TOGETHER

What is something you appreciate now that you used to take for granted?

FIVE-MINUTE ACTIVITY

Make a paper chain. Each person writes or draws a gratitude on one strip and a related act of kindness on another. Link them: "Friends → invite someone in." Choose one action. Pray, "God, help us share your goodness."

GRAPHIC WORDING

Family Connection • Thank it. Share it. • Turn gratitude into kindness.

CAPTION • READY TO POST

Paper strips, a little tape, and a thankful thought—let's make a chain with a purpose!

With your elementary or middle school kids, pair each gratitude with a kindness: "I'm thankful for stories → read to someone." Write or draw each on a strip and link them together. Choose one action to try this week. Grown-ups get a link, too!

What do you appreciate more than you used to? Share a story. You can also make a link remembering someone you miss.

SATURDAY • SEE YOU SUNDAY

Reusable graphic: See You Sunday • Worship 9:30 a.m.

Tomorrow we gather, and there's a place for you. Whether it's your first visit or a familiar Sunday, we'd love to see you at Fox River Congregational Church. Worship begins at 9:30 a.m.



Christmas Messages by Pastor Lonnie

Christmas is more than a familiar story of angels, shepherds, and a baby born in Bethlehem. It is a story of extraordinary faith in the midst of uncertainty, courage when the future is unknown, and hope when the world seems dark. This Advent and Christmas season, we'll rediscover the fundamental truths of Christmas through the lives of those who first experienced it. From Joseph's quiet obedience and Mary's remarkable trust to the wise men who followed a star, their stories remind us that faith isn't about having all the answers, it's about trusting God enough to take the next step. Join us as we explore how the timeless message of Christmas continues to bring hope, peace, purpose, and the assurance that God is with us.

November 29 *Hope When the World Feels Dark*
December 6 *The Way of Peace in an Anxious World*
December 13 *The Silent Hero of Christmas*
December 20 *The Yes that Changed the World*
December 24 Christmas Eve Worship, 4:00 p.m. *God is with Us*
December 27 *The Wise Still Seek Him*

Stewardship Campaign 2026



Questions To Ask

When Considering How Much to Give

- Does my giving represent the place Christ holds in my life?
- Does my giving reflect the biblical call to generosity?
- Am I giving from my first fruits or simply from what is left over?
- Does my giving reflect what I say I believe?
- Am I giving in a way that reflects my gratitude for God's blessings?
- When I look back on my life, will I be grateful for what I gave?

Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided *in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*
-II Corinthians 9:6-7

For where your treasure is, there your heart will also be.
- Matthew 6:21

STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us

Your commitment to faithful stewardship allows our church to faithfully serve our community through ministry.

Weekly Income through Sunday 11/15/2026 – Operations: $15,720.12 Building: $0
Weekly Budget Obligation 2026 $8,524.06.





the Christmas FAMILY FUN FEST!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5TH

9:30AM TIL NOON

Activities for kids and teens: 9:30am til Noon

DECORATE ORNAMENTS · MAKE A CHRISTMAS CARD
DECORATE COOKIES · FACE PAINTING · PLAY GAMES
SECRET SANTA WORKSHOP · SING CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Choir Performance and Nativity Story: 11:00am

Pewaukee High School Madrigal Choir
performance and an interactive telling of
the Nativity Story with Pastor Lonnie.

Fox River Congregational Church
the church in the woods

N34W23575 CAPITOL DRIVE
PEWAUKEE, WI 53072
WWW.FOXRIVERCHURCH.ORG

Joyful Noise

Sensory Friendly & Inclusive Christian Worship



All are welcome.
All belong.
All have gifts to share.

WHAT?

A 30-minute Christian worship service designed especially for individuals who benefit from a simple, clear, visually supported message with lots of music!

Come exactly as you are!

Share your gifts and join in the celebration of the gift of God's love for us!

WHEN?

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

Arrive at 11:00 AM
for Fellowship Hour
(Donuts & Coffee)

Worship Service at 11:30 AM

EXCEPT for DECEMBER:
the service will be on the
FIRST SUNDAY
(December 6).

WHERE?

Fox River Congregational Church

N34W23575 Capitol Dr.
Pewaukee, WI 53072

FREE

Everyone Welcome!

If you attend with a caregiver or support person, we ask that they remain on site and warmly invite them to join us for worship!

Questions?
Contact Colleen
(262) 424-9998
cmchughmoore@gmail.com

Check our website for updates:
www.foxriverchurch.org

Come. Worship. Belong.



Holiday Light

CD RELEASE

Ellen Winters Reynolds & Pete Billmann

Sunday, December 6 • 3 PM

Fox River Congregational Church
Pewaukee, WI

Open to the public | **2026**

Holiday favorites. A vintage jazz vibe.

Celebrate the season with award-winning vocalist Ellen Winters Reynolds and guitarist Pete Billmann as they mark the release of their first duo recording.

The album blends vocals and guitar with saxophone by Joe Turano for a festive mix of holiday cheer.

ON THE ALBUM

- Christmastime Is Here*
- Please Come Home for Christmas
- Sleigh Ride*
- Let It Snow / Winter Wonderland
- The Secret of Christmas
- (There's No Place Like) Home for the Holidays
- (Everybody's Waiting For) The Man with the Bag*
- When the Meadow Was Bloomin'
- A Jazz Musician's Christmas*

*Featuring Joe Turano, saxophone

Fox River Congregational Church

N34 W23575 Capitol Drive, Pewaukee, WI

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

ADA accessible | Ample parking available

Holiday Light is available in CD and digital formats.

Fox River CARES With Quilts



ONGOING MEETINGS

1st, 2nd & 3rd Tuesdays

9:00 AM–12:00 PM

in the Quilt Room at church

Fox River CARES With Quilts

Fox River CARES With Quilts creates Care Quilts for members of our congregation and others who need Christian love, prayer, and support.

Join Us

Enjoy Christian fellowship while serving others. No sewing experience is needed! Help with cutting, assembling, tying, organizing supplies, and other quilt-making tasks. Teens and adults are welcome.

Meetings

1st, 2nd & 3rd Tuesdays
9:00 AM–12:00 PM | Quilt Room at church

Current Needs

We are currently accepting cotton fabric or cash donations to purchase fabric. Fabric may include fun novelty prints, pretty nature prints, masculine prints, or solid colors. Pieces of at least two yards are especially appreciated.

Request a Prayer Quilt or Get Involved

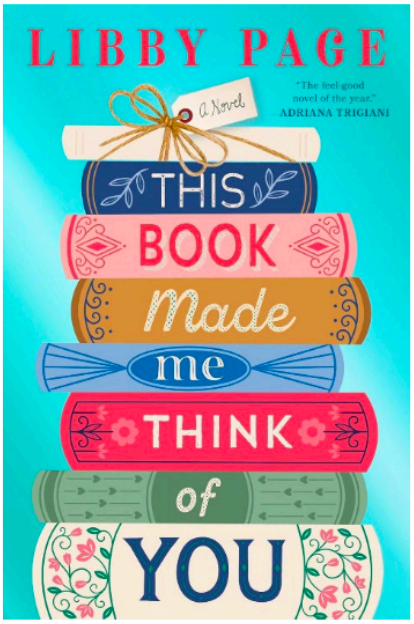
Contact Kathy Weil

262-442-1998 (call or text)
Kathykw1950@gmail.com

Calling all readers - Your church book club has a new book to read for November!

<u>This Book Made Me Think Of You by Libby Page</u>

Twelve books. Twelve months. One chance to heal her heart…



When Tilly Nightingale receives a call telling her there's a birthday gift from her husband waiting for her at her local bookshop, it couldn't come as more of a shock. Partly because she can't remember the last time she read a book for pleasure. But mainly because Joe died five months ago….

When she goes to pick up the present, Alfie, the bookshop owner with kind eyes, explains the gift—twelve carefully chosen books with handwritten letters from Joe, one for each month, to help her turn the page on her first year without him.

At first Tilly can't imagine sinking into a fictional world, but Joe's tender words convince her to try, and something remarkable happens—Tilly becomes immersed in the pages, and a new chapter begins to unfold in her own life. Monthly trips to the bookstore—and heartfelt conversations with Alfie—give Tilly the comfort she craves and the courage to set out on a series of reading-inspired adventures that take her around the world. But as she begins to share her journey with others, her story—like a book—becomes more than her own.

As always, read at your own pace but be ready for discussion at the end of the month. Meetings are held at church on a designated night from 6:45 to 8:00 p.m. A date will be voted on later, to schedule the meeting.

All are welcome to join and participate, at any time. Notices like this will be sent at the beginning of each month to provide information on the book of the month. If you have any questions or suggestions, please email Jackie at jacqueline_maechtle@outlook.com .

Blessings to all and happy reading!

Your Book Club Coordinator,

Jackie Maechtle

Fox River Congregational Church
the church in the woods

FOX RIVER CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UPCOMING EVENTS
November 15 – December 31, 2026

November 15 – November 21

Sunday, Nov 15
- FRCC Worship Service: **9:30 AM**
- Sunday School **9:30 AM**
- Fellowship Hour: After Service **10:30 AM**
- Exploring Membership **11:00 AM**

Monday, Nov 16
- Men's Bible Study **6:30 PM**

Tuesday, Nov 17
- Quilt Ministry: Fox River CARES with Quilts **9:00 AM**
- FRCC Staff Meeting **2:00 PM**
- On The Move: Art After Dark – Fox River Art Guild **5:30 PM**

Wednesday, Nov 18
- Men's Fellowship **8:00 AM**
- Christmas Family Fun Fest Planning Committee **9:00 AM**

Thursday, Nov 19
- Support Group: Loss of Spouse **5:00 PM**

Friday, Nov 20
- Volunteer Opportunity: Hope Center Meal **5:00 PM**

November 22 – November 28

Sunday, Nov 22
- Celebrating the Ministry of Pastor Jacquie **9:30 AM**
- FRCC Worship Service: **9:30 AM**
- Sunday School **9:30 AM**
- Fellowship Hour: After Service **10:30 AM**

Monday, Nov 23
- Brown Bag Bible Study **11:30 AM**

Tuesday, Nov 24
- FRCC Staff Meeting **2:00 PM**

Thursday, Nov 26
- Support Group: Caregiver's Coffee **10:00 AM**

Friday, Nov 27
- Hanging of the Greens – Setting Up **9:00 AM**

Saturday, Nov 28
- Hanging of the Greens – Decorating **9:30 AM**

November 29 – December 5

Sunday, Nov 29
- FRCC Worship Service: **9:30 AM**
- Sunday School **9:30 AM**
- Fellowship Hour: After Service **10:30 AM**

Tuesday, Dec 1
- Quilt Ministry: Fox River CARES with Quilts **9:00 AM**
- FRCC Staff Meeting **2:00 PM**

Wednesday, Dec 2
- Men's Fellowship **8:00 AM**
- Ministry Support Team Meeting **6:30 PM**

Thursday, Dec 3
- Support Group: Loss of Spouse **5:00 PM**

Friday, Dec 4
- Set-up for Christmas Family Fun Fest **12:00 PM**

Saturday, Dec 5
- The Christmas Family Fun Fest 2026 **9:30 AM**
- Clean-up for Christmas Family Fun Fest **12:00 PM**

December 6 – December 12

Sunday, Dec 6
- FRCC Worship Service: **9:30 AM**
- Sunday School **9:30 AM**
- Fellowship Hour: After Service **10:30 AM**
- Joyful Noise: Sensory Friendly & Inclusive Service **11:30 AM**
- Ellen Winters Reynolds' CD Release: Holiday Light **3:00 PM**

Tuesday, Dec 8
- Quilt Ministry: Fox River CARES with Quilts **9:00 AM**
- Serving Team Meeting – Missions and Outreach **1:30 PM**
- FRCC Staff Meeting **2:00 PM**

Thursday, Dec 10
- Support Group: Next Steps **5:00 PM**

Friday, Dec 11
- On The Move: A Twist On Decorating Baked Goods **5:00 PM**

Saturday, Dec 12
- Fellowship: Christmas Set-up **10:00 AM**
- On The Move: A Twist On Decorating Baked Goods **10:00 AM**

December 13 – December 19

Sunday, Dec 13
- FRCC Worship Service: **10:30 AM**
- Christmas Fellowship Meal – Following Service **11:45 AM**

Monday, Dec 14
- Brown Bag Bible Study **11:30 AM**

Tuesday, Dec 15
- Quilt Ministry: Fox River CARES with Quilts **9:00 AM**
- FRCC Staff Meeting **2:00 PM**

Wednesday, Dec 16
- Men's Fellowship **8:00 AM**

Thursday, Dec 17
- Support Group: Loss of Spouse **5:00 PM**

Friday, Dec 18
- On The Move: Christmas at the Wilson Center

December 20 – December 26

Sunday, Dec 20
- FRCC Worship Service: **9:30 AM**
- Sunday School **9:30 AM**
- Fellowship Hour: After Service **10:30 AM**
- Christmas Cookies for Missions – Following Service **11:00 AM**
- Christmas, Christmas: We love it so we say it twice! **4:00 PM**

Tuesday, Dec 22
- FRCC Staff Meeting **2:00 PM**

December 27 – January 2

Sunday, Dec 27
- FRCC Worship Service: **9:30 AM**
- Sunday School **9:30 AM**
- Fellowship Hour: After Service **10:30 AM**

Monday, Dec 28
- Brown Bag Bible Study **11:30 AM**

Tuesday, Dec 29
- Care Corps Team Meeting **9:30 AM**
- FRCC Staff Meeting **2:00 PM**

Thursday, Dec 31
- Support Group: Caregiver's Coffee **10:00 AM**

The printed calendar is updated monthly and may not reflect recent additions or changes.
For the most current schedule, please visit foxriverchurch.org, updated daily.
To submit Calendar, PowerPoint or Facebook/Instagram updates, please visit foxriverchurch.org/internal-calendar.
Revised 11.11.26

Watch Us On YouTube

Fox River Congregational Church
the church in the woods



QR code for our YouTube Video Channel



QR code for our Website