ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Mission Service Meeting at the Tauber Family Center
Thursday, September 3, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.

Program

The guest speakers were Heather and Jamie from the Fox Valley Literacy.

- Have been located on Franklin Street in Appleton since 1990, they have recently opened their community classroom at a location on Wisconsin Avenue.
- Covers other areas in literacy in addition to English.
- Provided resources, encouragement, and connection with volunteers.
- Clients are adults (18+)
    - Working on building family programming
- Group classes and one-on-one tutoring
- 2/3 students are women
- There has been a waiting list of about 30-40 people
- Citizenship Tutors available to help with testing requirements
- Looking for volunteers
    - Provide training, resources, and support
    - 130 volunteers-fairly small staff
- April 22, 2027 Fundraiser
    - Harmonies for Hope
    - Poplar Hall
    - https://www.foxvalleylit.org/harmonies-for-hope-2027
- Good energy-students are there because they want to be there.
- Looking for financial donations as well
    - They also have an Amazon wish list, especially for snacks that are served: www.foxvalleylit.org/donate
    - Bus Passes
    - Urgent needs are requested via social media
- Publish a quarterly newsletter-sign up at their website: www.foxvalleylit.org

Call Meeting to Order

2:02 p.m.

- Attendees: Jeanette Johnson, Karen Grosnick, Jeanne Senner, Tracy Dollevoet, Pastor Lynn Martin, Lucretia Fehrmann, Kathy Schlichenmayer, Carol Maynard, Renee Hein

Gathering Prayer — Pastor Lynn

Minutes of Last Meeting-Corrections/Additions — No changes

Correspondence — No correspondence

Treasurer's Report — Treasurer, Carol Maynard

- Approximately $3339 in the account right now

Offering

- Offering plate available

Update on current missions

- Jeanette and Jeanne volunteered with the Monthlies Project this past week.
  - Packed pads, tampons, underwear into boxes to be placed on pallets to be tagged and dropped off.
  - Usually takes less than two hours
- St. Joe's donations-a few items are in the box

Old Business

- 9/13-Church Picnic
  - Potluck/Hamburgers/Hot dogs
  - 9:30 a.m. @ La Follette Park, Kaukauna
- NAMI Altrusa Luncheon has been scheduled for Thursday, May 6, 2027.
  - Speaker has been booked
- Memorial service for Hannah Anderle
  - Saturday, September 19th @ 2:00 p.m.
    - Sign-up sheet for bars/cookies

New Business

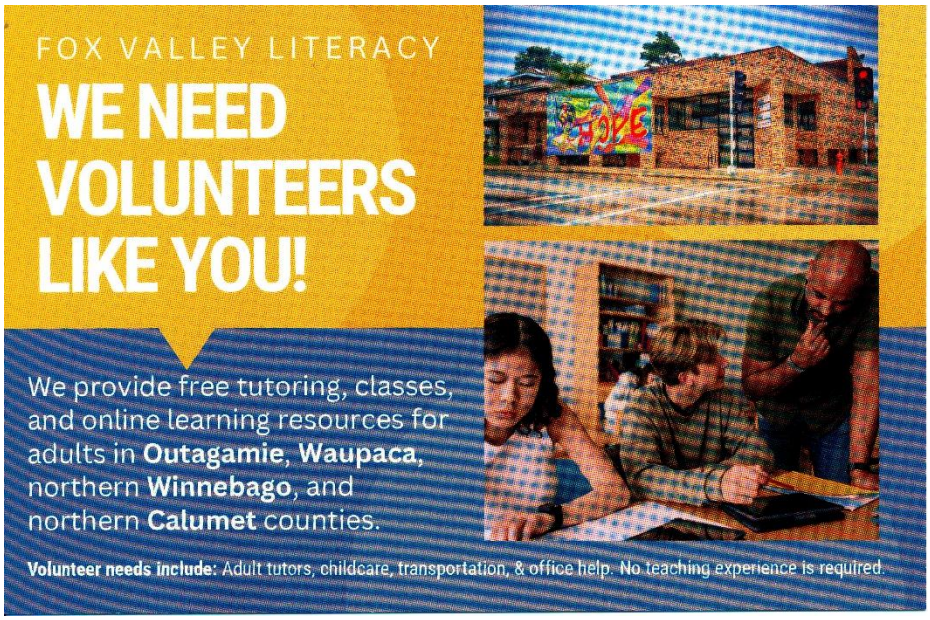
- Vets and Friends did not have their big fundraiser this year and are looking for groups that are willing to host a lunch ($500) or a breakfast ($250).
  - Would Mission Services be interested in hosting a meal using the bequest money from Jane Salentine (Jerry was a veteran)
  - They also need volunteers to serve
  - Could we fund this with SCRIP cards? Jeanne will talk to Monica
  - Jeanne made a motion to sponsor a meal, 2nd, Renee, motion carried
- Blessing Bags
  - Start filling them again on September 27th
  - Same list as last year
  - Need 1 ½ gallon Ziploc bags (or 2 gallon, if cannot find 1 ½ gallon size)
    - 1 ½ are available on Amazon
  - Tracy will print 400 more labels
  - Distribute to Salvation Army and Appleton School District Office
- Neenah UCC had a lot of tornado damage
  - Jeanette Johnson will contact them and see what their needs are
- Banners-Lynn will talk to Derek before the Tuesday Church Council meeting.
- Donation of $100 will be made to Fox Valley Literacy-memo to Heather/Jamie

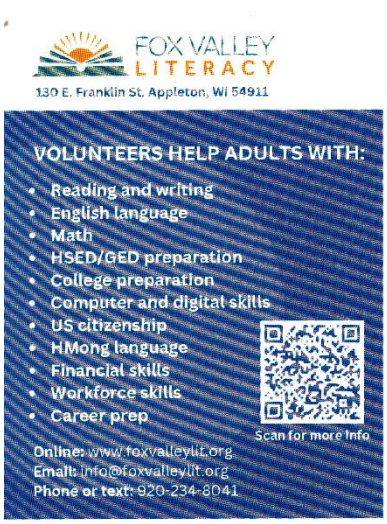
Next Meeting/Program

- October Meeting, Thursday, October 1st at 1:00 p.m.: Norma Oliveras from the Appleton Public Library who will talk about their Multicultural Book Club for children.

Adjournment 2:20 p.m.

- Respectfully submitted by: Tracy Dollevoet





How to Start Tutoring

Our volunteers are literacy advocates who receive ongoing training, support and materials from our staff. *Teaching experience is not required!*

First, choose one:
A Complete the **New Volunteer Form**, at: www.foxvalleylit.org/volunteer, and choose your **Training Session** date, OR
B Email us at: info@foxvalleylit.org, OR
C Call us at: 920-991-9840

Then:
- Participate in a virtual Volunteer Orientation
- Complete self-paced teaching methods training
- Attend a Match Meeting with a staff member and your student(s)
- Meet with your student(s) 1-2 hours a week
- Enjoy your volunteer journey as you learn about your students and yourself while developing new skills and making a difference!

Volunteer Orientation

During your Volunteer Orientation, our Program Director will prepare you to get started in the area you choose:
- Tutoring to help students meet their goals
- Childcare assistance
- Transportation
- Office assistance and event volunteering
- Board of Directors

Throughout your volunteering experience, staff will provide ongoing support, training, and resources.

For more than 35 years, Fox Valley Literacy has provided free adult literacy education.

Today's Literacy needs:

- Nationally, 54% of adults read at or below a 6th grade level (PIACC)
- Locally, nearly 50% of adults struggle to understand healthcare information, manage their finances, and use technology (2025 State of Literacy Report)
- In Wisconsin, 1 in 7 adults struggle with basic literacy



What our Volunteers are Saying

"I'm improving at filling out online forms."

"Fox Valley Literacy feels like a home . . . everyone is welcome and all are there to make the world a better place."

"My students come ready to learn! And I'm here for it!

What our Students are Saying

"Fox Valley Literacy has helped me feel more confident in my learning."

"I'm improving at filling out online forms."

"Better communication at work."

"Fox Valley Literacy helped me prepare for my citizenship exam."

Volunteer Tutoring



YOU COULD HELP WITH:

Language & Learning Foundations

Skills needed to pursue goals and fully participate in our economy and community.
- Reading
- Writing
- English language
- Math
- Digital and Computer skills

Literacy for Everyday Life

Understanding everyday systems to access services, advocate, and plan for the future.
- Financial knowledge
- Healthcare knowledge
- Workforce skills for participation, communication, and advancement
- School system skills for children's academic success

Belonging & Civic Participation

Connections and knowledge to fully live and make a difference in our community.
- U.S. History and Civics (Citizenship)
- Rights & Responsibilities
- Information Literacy
- HMoob (HMong) Language & Literacy

"Volunteering at Fox Valley Literacy is the highlight of my week. I love seeing my students' progress, and I learn so much from them as well!"
– Cathy D., Volunteer Tutor

Other Ways to Volunteer with us

At Fox Valley Literacy, in addition to volunteer tutors, we always need help with:

- **Childcare assistance** while our adult students are learning
- **Transportation** for our adult students to and from lessons
- **Office tasks** that help us support our learners
- **Community event assistance**

Volunteer to Serve on our Board of Directors

Join our all-volunteer Board of Directors to share your ideas and experiences and strengthen our community. Complete the New Volunteer Form at: **www.foxvalleylit.org** or email: **info@foxvalleylit.org**, or call: 920-991-9840.



Thank you to our sponsors for supporting us in educating, empowering and strengthening our community!

US Venture

Basic Needs Giving Partnership

Community First Credit Union – We'll Find A Way!

Slice of Literacy – Pizza Hut Foundation

J. J. Keller Foundation, Inc.

United Way Fox Cities

Together, we flourish. Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region – David L. & Rita E. Nelson Family Fund

Our Locations

Downtown Learning Center
130 E. Franklin Street, Appleton, WI 54911

Community Classroom on Wisconsin Avenue
615 E. Wisconsin Avenue, Appleton, WI 54911

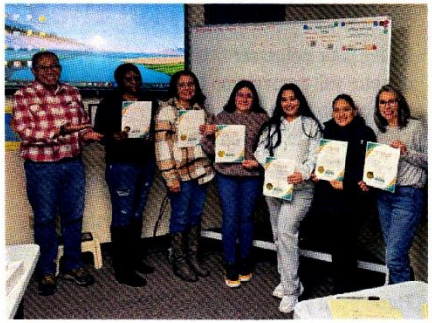
Website: www.foxvalleylit.org
Phone: 920-991-9840
Email: info@foxvalleylit.org

FOX VALLEY LITERACY

VOLUNTEER AT

FOX VALLEY LITERACY

HAVE FUN AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Save the Date

HARMONIES FOR HOPE
FOX VALLEY LITERACY

A Benefit Concert for Fox Valley Literacy
April 22, 2027, 7 p.m.-9 p.m. at Poplar Hall

Live music, Original Student Stories, Raffle Collections, and Special Guest MC, Christopher Gold

Musical Performances By:
Christopher Gold
Natural Satellite
Tyler Sj.
And More – Stay Tuned!

Tickets: $45 (includes a drink ticket)

Sponsor Packages and Ticket Information:
tinyurl.com/HarmoniesforHope

FOX VALLEY LITERACY

FACES of Literacy

VOICES FROM OUR COMMUNITY

YOUR CONTRIBUTION WILL SUPPORT THINGS LIKE:

$25 - Stock a Classroom with Curricula

$50 - Digital Literacy Toolkit

$100 - 1 Month of Tutoring Lessons for 1 Student

$250 - Customized Learning Plan for 5 Students

$500 - Financial Literacy Workshop

DONATION AMOUNT $_____

Make checks payable to: Fox Valley Literacy

Name: _____
Address: _____

Phone: _____
Email: _____

Or Scan Here To Donate Now