



June 2023 Volume 70, Issue 6

PASTOR LEANNE’S MESSAGE:

The Changing Church: Civil Religion and the Call of the Gospel

150 years ago, when Father I.O. Sloan stepped off the train in Bismarck, he declared that his mission was to “make peace out of pandemonium.” His ally, the prolific Linda Slaughter, went to local businesses (even some of the more disreputable ones) and asked them to donate, telling them that the presence of a church in Bismarck would be good for the city and attract more people (hence more customers!) Both of them revealed a common belief of their day, one that dates back to some of the earliest colonial settlers – the role of the church is to encourage the establishment of a societal order of civility for the common good.

The relationship between the church and society has undergone a lot of changes since their day, the church on the corner is no longer the central arbitrator of social value and structure. Some say this is a bad thing – I recently read, “Alienated American” by Tim Carney who claims, “The unchurched of America is at the root of America’s economic and social problems,” and, “almost, he persuadest me” (Acts 2:28 KJV.) Others take a different view – they maintain that it is actually better for the church’s calling to be decentralized from society, that we are compromised when we allow ourselves to be a tool for the culture, that we were not created to serve an earthly society, but a heavenly one, and that the best thing we can do is hold ourselves apart – what the church needs most is to “simply be the church.” Of course, there are variations in the debate I do not have the space to spell out here.

My purpose for mentioning this as we head into our 150th anniversary is to make a point that I think could otherwise be lost: that is, that this church, its high times, its low times, its current functioning and its future goals has been the beneficiary and the victim of this changing conversation. Our story has followed the pattern of many mainline churches, we have ebbed and flowed with the changes to the culture outside our doors. Every generation is challenged anew to respond to the changing dimensions of the role of church to the larger culture. Adaptation is everything. ➔

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PASTOR'S MESSAGE CONTINUED:

150 years of faithfulness is nothing to sneeze at – we have done many things right for a very long time. The question for us is this: what is God calling us to be now, today, in our world as it is. We can no longer rely on our status as a societally necessary downtown church to draw people to us – we must adapt, we must seek souls for the kingdom. We must go to them. Outreach is the call of the day.

As we thank God for the 150 years of holy faithfulness, let us turn our attention to prayer for “marching orders,” inspiration and resources for the next 100 years. As Jesus said, Matthew 9:35-38 Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness. 36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. 38 Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.”

Leanne

FROM OUR PARISH NURSE - WANONA

Hello everyone! Happy Father's Day to all you dads! I hope your able to get outside and enjoy our June weather.

Just a reminder that we are on summer break. There will be no Balance and Strengthening Exercise Class or Blood Pressure Clinic this month.

I am planning our Health Fair for September 28th, Thursday from 10 am to 2 pm. I have a sign up sheet on my bulletin board for those who can help with the fair. There will be parking on 3rd Street, Thayer Ave. and 2nd Street. We will contact the police department so they won't give out parking tickets during our fair.

HUMOR TIME:

Why do dads who golf always take an extra pair of socks?

“In case they get a hole in one!”

What did the banana give it's dad for Father's Day?

Slippers

Why did the daddy cat want to go bowling on Father's Day?

He was an alley cat.

What did the grape say to his dad?

Dad you did a grape job raisin me!

Why did the kids give beans to their dad for Father's Day?

He was chili!



“A Word with Wanona” - I would like to introduce you to Allen Hoberg

1. Where were you born and raised. How many siblings?

I was born in Rugby, ND, but moved from Leeds, ND to Minot, ND when I was 6. So I was raised mostly in Minot and attended public schools there graduating from Minot High School in 1968. I have 3 siblings – Yvonne – 76. Jon – 65, Mary - 63

2. What was your very first job?

I worked in fast food at Henry’s drive-in the summer after my junior year in high school, starting at \$.85/hr.

3. What is some of your working history that most people would never know you did?

I was briefly the first director of the National Agricultural Law Research Center in Fayetteville Arkansas. On a separate occasion, I was a visiting assistant professor at the University of Arkansas School of Law.

4. Where did you graduate high school/college?

Minot High School; BA in History from the University of North Dakota and Juris Doctorate from UND; and a LLM (Law Masters) in Agricultural Law from the University of Arkansas

5. How did you meet your spouse?

In Law School at UND.

6. Name three goals you wanted to accomplish in your life?

To be a criminal law attorney (never was); To sing a solo in the Messiah (never will); to be a lay minister (may still happen).

7. What is the most memorable event in your life?

There are many; besides getting married to my wonderful wife Mary, I would say being stationed at Oakland Army Base instead of being sent to Viet Nam.

8. What are you thankful for in your life journey?

Many things; including a good family life; a good job and career path; being able to sing meaningfully my whole life long.

9. Who is your hero?

Mrs. Olive Kildahl – my church choir director grades 1-12 and 2 years of college.

10. What was the funniest thing that has happened to you?

Funny, I don’t recall anything noteworthy involving just me. But, when we lived in Arkansas, my parents flew from Seattle to visit us. They were about to land in Fayetteville when they realized, being told, that they were landing in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Fortunately, they were able to get a plane the next day to Fayetteville Arkansas. We all laughed about that for some time after they arrived.

11. When were you a member of First Presbyterian Church?

December, 1977, until present.

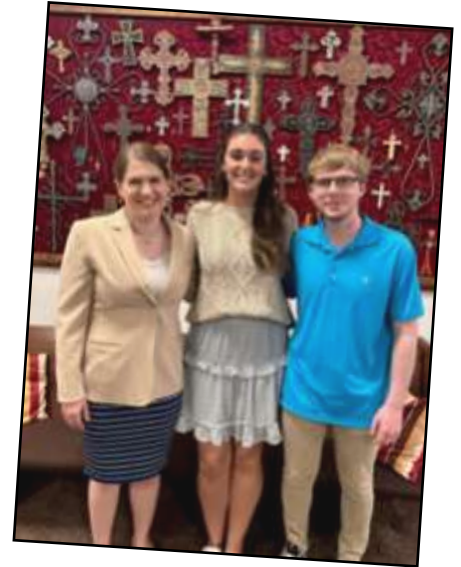
12. What are some of the volunteer, membership and duties you have done at FPC?

I was a deacon, elder on session (chair Membership, later Co-chair Hospitality, Committee), chancel choir, the Banquet, Gospel Guys quartet; singing solos and duets in the summer months; dinner dean for Logos and PAC, Worship and Music Committee.

Thank you Allen for sharing your story!



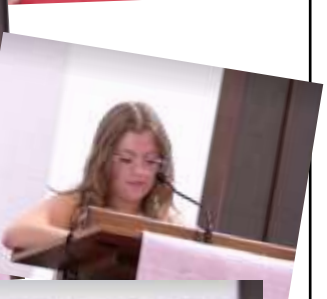
CELEBRATING OUR GRADUATES! CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2023



**CONGRATULATIONS TAYLOR HUTCHINSON
ON YOUR BAPTISM!**



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CONFIRMANDS - "YOUTH SUNDAY"



150th Anniversary Historical Moment-

14-Year-Old Saves Day

Church Robbed While Trustees Meet

July 19, 1956

While the board of trustees discussed financial affairs in the church parlors, a burglar slipped into the First Presbyterian Church here last night and stole off with \$818.37.

If it hadn't been for 14-year-old Gerald Imus, he might have gotten away with it.

But because Gerald, son of Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Imus, 313 Second St., had his eyes open and his Dick Tracy instinct working, Hugh Ryan, 62, Seattle, was in the city jail here Friday.

Gerald was playing on the

lawn outside the church, at the corner of Thayer Ave., and Second St., when he noticed a "suspicious looking" character enter the building.

He called his father and told him, and when the man re-emerged from the church the father agreed that the departing stranger might bear investigating.

So while the father kept an eye on the visitor, Gerald called the police.

When the man walked hastily away, Imus got in his automobile and followed him.

At one point, he saw him toss what looked like a billfold to the ground.

Meanwhile, the police car arrived and Gerald got in with the officers. At the corner of Fourth St. and Rosser Ave., they overtook the quickly retreating stranger and made the arrest.

On his person, said Acting Chief of Police Gordon Kern, they found \$818.37 in checks, and cash, a large part of it money intended for the building of a church educational addition.

At police headquarters, said Kern, the man identified himself as Hugh Ryan of Seattle, Wash., and admitted the theft. In justice court here Friday, Ryan waived preliminary hearing and was bound over to Burleigh County District Court on a charge of grand larceny. Bond was fixed at \$2,000.

Back at the church, Gerald was acclaimed as a hero.

State Highway Patrol Chief Clark Monroe, a member of the board, helped take up a \$10 collection from members as a reward for Gerald's vigilance.

After they gave him the \$10, Mrs. E. C. Tressler, 308 1/2 Boulevard, dug up an extra \$5 to show her personal appreciation. As the congregation's financial secretary, she felt especially grateful.

The money had been taken from a safe situated in the church office on the main floor. The safe, explained Mrs. Tressler, had been left open after papers needed for the trustees' meeting had been removed.

The Rev. James Payson Martin is pastor.

Ryan Gets Five Year Sentence For Church Theft

Hugh Ryan, 62, Seattle, Wash. who robbed the First Presbyterian church of Bismarck July 19, has been sentenced by Burleigh County District Judge Charles L. Foster to five years in the state penitentiary.

Ryan plead guilty to rifling the church safe of \$838. Only \$30 of that amount was in cash, the remainder being checks.

Ryan was arrested after having been spotted entering and leaving the church by 14-year-old Gerald Imus, 313 Second street.

Ryan, who was charged with grand larceny, admitted walking into the church while the board of trustees was meeting and taking the money from an open safe.

Foster notified the defendant he could apply for parole after he served two years of the sentence.

Records indicated Ryan had served time for similar offenses in several state penitentiaries.

—Stop Road Horrors—



150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION SATURDAY, JUNE 17TH - 2:00-6:00PM

GAMES, CRAFTS, & BOUNCY HOUSE FOR THE KIDS

BRAVEHEART - MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT

DUNKING BOOTH

HISTORICAL DISPLAYS

OLD FASHIONED PHOTO BOOTH

QUILT DISPLAYS

BOY SCOUT TROOP #6 - FOOD BOOTH

POPCORN - COTTON CANDY - LEMONADE

PARISH NURSE WANONA - BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC 2:00-3:00PM



The Child Care Center News

Thank you to those of you who helped the CCC staff celebrate National Daycare Provider's Appreciation Day, May 12th. We appreciate your joining them in the Parlor after being recognized at the Sunday morning service, May 21st. Many thanks for the donations of Powdered Dishwashing Detergent and Bleach for the months of April and May, along with the monetary donations. The needs list for June are Diapers, size 4 and 5.

Shawn Stettner, Director of the CCC, states she was hired to start her work as the director, on June 15, 1995. (28 years ago) She states they opened the CCC doors on August 1st, 1995. We are very thankful for the dedicated employees and volunteers who have donated their time thru the years and presently, along with the parents of the many babies and children who enlisted trust in FPC CCC's care. Definitely a cause for celebration and thankfulness!!

With the warmer weather approaching, the CCC staff and board members want to remind everyone to wear sun screen and reapply as needed, along with proper head covering/clothing and sunglasses, while enjoying the outdoor sunshine. Be sure you and your child (children) stay hydrated, with plenty of fluids, especially water, is very important!

If you, or anyone you might know, enjoys working with children from infants to 5 years of age, and are seeking employment, (part time or full time), please consider an opportunity to work with the dedicated staff at FPC-CCC. Please contact Shawn or Vanessa at 258-7490, or go online for an application. May each of you have a safe and enjoyable summer!



CCC Needs List for June: Diapers - sizes 4 and 5



June Donation Opportunity

The Hospitality Committee's June donation opportunity is for Heaven's Helpers Soup Cafe. They need paper napkins, paper towels, white lunch bags, quart-size zip-lock bags (they do not need to be freezer safe), and snack-size zip-lock bags (also don't need to be freezer safe).

Heaven's Helpers has been feeding the hungry in Bismarck for six years. They serve 100-200 people a day, six days a week.

Thank you to all who donated socks, underwear and other clothing for Youthworks during the month of May.



HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE-

The Hospitality Committee's community garden is planted. Now we get to watch how our garden grows - and pull weeds. We need volunteers to help maintain the patch. Those who help get to help decide where the produce goes.

Thank you to those who volunteered much hard labor over the past month. We couldn't have done it without you, and the wise counsel of our Master Gardener, Pat Weinberg.



CHRISTIAN ED -

We had such a wonderful year this year. From VBS in August to mothers day in May. The kids and teens painted some pumpkins, helped at the pumpkin patch, did a food drive, built gingerbread houses, and so much more. With our youth group growing so much now, we'll need help from parents and volunteers. Coming this next season, we are looking at having table parents help with Sunday School. We are also looking for members of the congregation to share about their jobs to the kids, and for donated desserts for VBS and PAC. For this years VBS we are asking for "space" themed decorations and supplies.

Thank you for your time!

Sincerely, Marete and Mark



RESOURCE & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE



The Per Capita Special Offering is a special offering of our church that extends the entire year. We start to talk about it in January of each year and provide added information throughout the year in the form of periodic minutes for mission, special articles in the newsletter and church bulletins.

We mention the Per Capita Special Offering starting in January and request that each member consider giving a gift to the church of \$50 to cover their share of the church's financial obligation to the larger church. If you are a member that pledges income each year to the church, and would like to be able to help support other members who might find it financially unfeasible to pledge or to make the separate per capita donation, your separate gift of \$50 will help cover the cost of membership for that less fortunate member of the church. You can make your per capita gift to the church simply by making out a check and sending it to the church office with per capita written in the memo blank on the check. You may also place it in the collection baskets in the rear of the sanctuary on Sunday morning.

Thank you, Jim Skaret

Resource Management Committee

CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR THE FAMILIES OF:

JOHN SAKARIASSEN

LUELLA DUNN

STAN HALLING

GRAEL GANNON

MEMORIAL SERVICE MONDAY, JUNE 12 AT 2:00PM



One of our fabulous serving teams!!

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

May 23, 2023

CLERK'S REPORT

The passing of Stan Halling on May 10, 2023 was noted. The memorial service was held on May 18 in the sanctuary. On May 14 the following confirmation students were presented: Amelia Knudson, Andrew Davis, Annabelle Wohl, Connor Svihovec, Jade Fox, Peyton Kalanek, Sydney Henriksen and Taylor Hutchinson. Taylor was also baptized. Session approved the request for transfer of John and Mary Emily Thomas to Second Presbyterian Church of Roanoke, Virginia.

Session approved the request for baptism from Gus and Alyssa Shockman for their son Rhett August Shockman. Baptism will be done in June or July.

Membership is 312.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Total Income YTD Actual	\$181,401	Budget	\$161,311
Total Expense YTD Actual	\$195,021	Budget	\$208,154
NET Income	-\$7,620	Budget	-\$46,843

MODERATOR'S REPORT

Pastor Leanne will have vacation May 29-June 6. Church staff have discussed a possible plaque near the elevator in memory of Tony Bartole and Session approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative and Personnel—The committee has interviewed candidates for the position of full-time maintenance person. Session approved the use of kitchen facilities by Auntie Jade's Catering pending legal review.

Hospitality—Heaven's Helpers has a repurpose door to accept donation such as furniture and appliances. Call 751-0405 to see if they would accept your donation. CATCH, the group bringing Ukrainian families to US, is fundraising. Session approved having FPC become a Matthew 25 church, meaning we would embrace areas like congregational vitality, dismantling racism or helping end hunger/poverty. This is a PCUSA initiative.

Proclamation Christian Education—May events went well. There will be activities for children on June 17 as part of the 150th celebration.

Proclamation Worship and Music—On June 11 following worship service, Ann Vadnie will present, "Presbyterians in Early Bismarck". Outdoor worship service at Glencoe will be June 25.

July 2 communion will have 4 servers in front.

Property and Equipment—Thanks to Matt Engel and all the volunteers who clean the church.

Resource Management—Formal audit will be done by Brady Martz later this year.

Board of Deacons—Lori Lee, Karmen Svihovec and Dennis Rosenkranz agreed to serve another 2-year term as Deacons.

Child Care Center—Recognition of staff was May 21.

150th Anniversary—Becky Mahlum explained the various outlets which will advertise the celebration on June 17, including KX TV Morning Show, Prairie Public radio, Bismarck Tribune along with Facebook and FPC website. There will be yard signs for church members.

Alice Nix, Clerk of Session



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

First Presbyterian Church

214 East Thayer Ave.

Bismarck, ND 58501

Phone: 701-223-6091

firstpresbyterian@fpcbismarck.com

www.fpcbismarck.com

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am

Office Hours: 8:00 am - 4:30 pm



Pastor

Rev. Dr. Leanne Simmons

Finance Assistant

Carol Thompson

Administrative Assistant

Maureen Chrest

Parish Nurse

Wanona Goetz

Christian Ed. Co-Directors

Marete Farver & Mark Jensen

Organists

Arvy Smith & Gail Snustad

Chancel Choir Director

Debi Rogers

Westminster Chimes Director

Lael Hoerauf

Audio/Visual Specialist

Josh Stokka

Membership Services

Judy Lentz

Child Care Center Director

Shawn Stettner

Child Care Center Asst. Director

Vanessa Hein

Nursery

Mary Jones

Christian Ed. Intern

Sophie Svihovec

BIRTHDAYS

JUNE

Will Davis	1st
Jim Skaret	2nd
Ronald Gappert	5th
Drew Pengilly	5th
Marjorie Kahl	5th
David Pengilly	7th
Genie Voegele	9th
Bryce Volk	9th
Sedalia Mahlum	15th
Leroy Bollinger	16th
Bonnie Riedlinger	19th
Debi Rogers	23rd
Gary Gilchrist	24th
Calista Wohl	24th
William Sprynczynatyk	27th
Jill Bollinger	27th
Mary Bradford	30th
Sarah Massey	30th

ANNIVERSARIES

JUNE

Otto & Jae Reile	1st
Lyle & Susan Johnsen	1st
Joe & Jody Bachmeier	4th
Allen & Mary Hoberg	5th
Tedd & Ella Gutzke	13th
Chris & Dawn Henriksen	17th
Ed & Becky Murphy	18th
Leo & Audre Goll	21st
Ryan & Heather Davis	24th
David & Danette Pengilly	24th
Don & Lynne Bigwood	26th
Josh & Maren Stokka	27th
Ken & Debi Rogers	30th



Please let us know if we've made a mistake, omission or if you would prefer not to have your special day published.

~ Thank you ~



hello,

JUNE

2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 PASTOR ON	2 VACATION	3 > > >
4 10am Worship Pastor Leanne will preach!	5 PASTOR > > 1:30pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30pm Scouts 7:00pm Christ. Ed	6 > VACATION NO Prop. & Equipment 6:30pm Lay Pastors	7 Noon "Munch & Mingle" 1:30pm 150th Comm.	8 6:00pm Hospitality	9	10 1:00pm volunteer clean-up at FPC inside & out!
11 10am Worship 11:30am "Earliest Pioneers" presented by: Ann Vadnie	12 2:00 PM Graef Gannon Memorial 5:30pm Worship & Music 6:30pm Scouts	13 5:30pm CCC Board	14 Noon 150th Comm.	15 NO Deacons	16	17 2-6:00pm  Anniversary Celebration
18 10am 150th Anniversary Worship  Fathers Day	19 Noon -Resource Management 1:30pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 4:30pm Admin. Personnel 6:30pm Scouts	20	21  1st day of summer	22	23	24
25 10:30am Worship Outdoor Serv. At Glencoe Sloan /Pot Luck Picnic	26 6:30pm Scouts	27 2:00pm Presby Friends at Augusta Place 6:00pm Session	28			