



Here and Now  
August  
Newsletter!

August 2024

Volume 71, Issue 8

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**PASTOR LEANNE'S MESSAGE:**

**“Cottage Meetings”**

It's been six years – moving into the seventh – since Audrey and I arrived here in Bismarck, dreams and hopes in tow. I don't know how many worship services, special events, classes, funerals and weddings that would amount to, but I know it is a lot. Along the way, we celebrated the church's 150th anniversary and lived through a pandemic faithfully.

One of the first things we did together was to hold “Cottage Meetings,” small gatherings held in private homes, where we met to get acquainted and talk about our dreams and concerns for the future of the church. For me, it was a great way to get started and helped me set priorities for my ministry here. Also, it was fun!

I would like to do it again: to meet in small groups for open discussion, providing an opportunity to express our thoughts, priorities and concerns about the direction of our ministry. Conversations cover everything church related: sermons, music, the building, youth, all ministries. So I am seeking 3 or 4 people who would be willing to host groups in their homes, somewhere near the end of August and beginning of September. Previously, the host of the meeting would provide light snacks – cookies or something simple, and after a brief time of chatting, we opened up and talked. Any takers?

As you know, Fall is when we elect new elders, and I would like to hear from all of you before we do elder training, so that I can bring your concerns to Session. Please, if you are interested, contact the office with potential times and dates. I'm looking forward to a time when we can all sit down and talk.

**Leanne**



Brag Box: Taylor Skaret  
daughter of Steve & Julie Skaret  
grand-daughter of Jim & Nanc Skaret

Taylor turned 13 in June and will be in the 8th grade at Mandan Middle School this year. She has played the clarinet for 2 years and also started the cello this year.



She played in the Mandan Marching Band this summer. She attended the International Music Camp for the 2nd year and is developing into a very good clarinet player. She takes private cello lessons and enjoys the cello but takes the clarinet much more seriously. She is passionate about her music and wants to get into music composition.



Brag Box:

grand-daughter of  
Juanita and Kim Hocking

Brighe Huggins and her dad Matt Huggins  
enjoying a pontoon ride on Lake Chetek  
in Wisconsin.





## Brag Box:

great grand-daughters of Audre & Leo Goll

Let me tell you a tale involving my North Carolina great granddaughters. Their names are Savvy, age 10 and Izzy, age 6. Dad and Mom wanted to teach them responsibility and caring for living things. They started out with three chickens. Laying hens, and yes, they are allowed to keep a few chickens even if they do live in city limits. Their dad built a beautiful chicken coop in their play yard. Soon it was feeding, watering and pooper scooping which the girls followed religiously. The hens did their part by laying eggs. The girls named each one and a favorite was Mrs. Feather-bottoms. She became a real pet to Izzy who would bring her into the house and read her stories. The hen was completely content. They progressed to 6 hens and are now selling the eggs under the name of Feather-bottoms Farms and stamp that name on each egg. They are learning the care and concerns of their little business and earning some spending money, too. I'm very proud of them but it gets me to pondering--when Savvy brings her first boyfriend home and introduces him to her pet project, will he accept this or run?? Only time will tell!

Audre Goll



**MUNCH  
&  
MINGLE**

### **Munch & Mingle!**

Please come for Munch & Mingle  
the 1st Wednesday of the month

**12:00pm at Broadway Grill Tavern**

(100 W Broadway Ave.) **August 7th**

## PARISH NURSE NEWS -

It is already August! Every summer goes by faster and faster! August is always the big reminder of back-to-school time and that means more kids out and about and new drivers galore. Let's talk about driving safety! As we age, several factors can affect our ability to drive. These can include:

Stiff joints and muscles  
Vision impairment  
Hearing impairment  
Slower reflexes and even  
Medications



**DRIVE SAFE**

According to the National Institute on Aging it is important to consider the following tips for safe driving:

- Talk with your doctor about any concerns regarding driving
- Be physically active to help with strength and flexibility – Strength and Balance class will return on Tues. and Thurs. at 11am after Labor Day in Ramstad Hall – would love to see you there!
- Avoid driving at certain times of the day- school drop off or pick up times and after sunset
- Consider your car – certain cars now come with parking assistance, back up cameras, and other sensors to assist with driving
- For vision and hearing impairment always wear your corrective lenses and hearing aid and have an up-to-date prescription

Having “the talk” about when to stop driving may be difficult, but remember it is about safety. Safety for you and your loved ones and other members of the community. Here are a few questions to ask yourself to help you decide whether it is time to quit driving:

- Am I having trouble seeing road signs, exits, or lanes?
- Am I still flexible enough to turn my head to check blind spots?
- Do I get lost frequently?
- Have family or friends said they are worried about my driving?
- Have I had an increase in fender benders and accidents?
- Do I have trouble moving my foot between the pedals or do I confuse the two?

Grieving the loss of driving is a natural response. Make sure to share those feelings with others and don't bottle them up. Emotions for this step in life can be strong and it's okay to discuss those feelings with healthcare professionals or those close to you. Take steps now to plan for the various ways to access drivers or services available for transportation. Safe driving and safe back-to-school transportation for all!

**SINCERELY, CARMEN**



## Second Sunday Summer Concerts:

During the summer there are a series of “Second Sunday Concerts” on the Highland Acres Elementary School playground (1200 Prairie Drive, Bismarck). The last concert of the summer will be **Sunday, August 11th from 6:30 to 8pm**. The band will be “The Bluestems” a family bluegrass band from Elgin, ND. There will be food trucks if you are hungry. Bring a blanket or lawn chairs. Free will offerings are accepted. Hope to see you there!



The heat of Summer is in full swing.

Flowers abound riotously, but the green grass is beginning to turn shades of gold.

Yes, Autumn is lurking around the corner. So if you’ve time, take out your calendar and jot down “**Wednesday, September 4th at 7:30pm**”

Chancel Choir will begin rehearsals!

Stay tuned to your bulletins, your snail mail and online this month for updates!



## CCC NEWS:

A BIG thank you to the congregation members for the generous supply of facial tissues and hand soap for the Child Care Center! There is an ever-present need for those items and your gifting keeps hands clean and little noses dry.

The Child Care Center has part-time and full-time positions available along with great employment flexibility for high school and college students. For more information, contact **Shawn or Vanessa at 701-258-7490**, or learn more about the center using this **QR code!**

Enjoy the month of August soaking up the sun and traveling with family!



**CCC Needs List for August: paper towels and hand soap**



## **\*Coming in September\***

**Offices Closed on Monday, Sept. 2 - Labor Day**

**Youth attending the “Pow Wow”**

**Back to School Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks**

**PAC/Teens is back on Wednesdays**

**3rd graders receive their Bibles**

**Blessing of the Pets**



**HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE:**

**SAVE THE DATE: “The Banquet” Dinner, Thursday, November 7, 2024**

(20 volunteers needed; estimated cost of \$1,250 to provide 400+ meals)

Donations to help defray costs may be dropped off at the church office anytime and note “The Banquet” in the memo line of your check.





Since 1972, Bismarck Meals on Wheels (MOW) has been committed to providing nutritious home-delivered meals to those in need within our community. What started as a compassionate initiative by a group of community leaders, with the support of Bismarck Hospital, has evolved into a cornerstone of support for many individuals. We owe a debt of gratitude to Sanford Hospital for their steadfast partnership in this mission, spanning over 52 years. However, as communities evolve, so must the organizations that serve them. The transition to home-delivered meals by the Burleigh-Bismarck Senior Center, supported by the Older Americans Act Nutrition Program, marks a natural progression in meeting the changing needs of our community.

**As a result, Bismarck Meals on Wheels will be discontinued, effective August 31, 2024.**

Thanks to all who signed up or who planned to volunteer for MOW in September. The Burleigh-Bismarck Senior Center will continue to serve those who have received meals through the MOW program. However, the volunteer scheduling will look quite different. If you are interested in delivering meals, **contact the Senior Center at 701-255-4648.**

### Ukrainian Family Arrives!

Illness, data breeches, disrupted flight schedules... nothing prevented this Ukrainian family from finally arriving in Bismarck Sunday evening, July 21st. Tired, but very happy to be here and to settle into their new, fully furnished apartment were Yeger, Oleksandra, Danill, and the family pet. Thanks to all who contributed items for the family. If you would like to continue to help the family settle in, please contact Marcia Patrie at 391-2925. One area of need would be transportation to appointments and shopping.



Although this family's apartment is fully furnished, thanks to the generous donations of various congregations, other families will be in need. If you have furniture you are interested in donating, these agencies accept used furniture: Global Neighbors 428-7785; Community Action 258-2240, and Heaven's Helpers' RePurpose Store 751-2240. These agencies provide donated furniture at no cost.

## First Presbyterian Hospitality Committee

Bismarck Public School's Students in Transition (S.I.T.) Program is charged with ensuring that children and youth who are homeless have equal access to the same free, appropriate public education as provided to all other students. These services include the right to....

- Attend school.
- Stay at the school they attended before becoming homeless
- Transportation services to and from school of origin (dependent on situation.)
- Participate in school programs and activities and receive the same school services that are offered to other children.
- Title 1 Services.
- Free/reduced meals.

In an effort to support this program, the Hospitality Committee has purchased gas gift cards to enable parents of homeless children to buy gas in order to get their children to school when other transportation options are not available. Attendance of these students is monitored and regularity in attendance will be rewarded with addition gift cards.

First Presbyterian Church has supported the S.I.T. Program in the past through a towel drive. Both our congregation and S.I.T. are members of the Missouri Valley Coalition for Homeless People. The Coalition is comprised of over 40 non-profits, government agencies, churches, businesses, and citizens all interested in assisting the needs of the homeless population.



## **Supporting the AARC**

During **August**, the Hospitality Committee will be collecting personal hygiene products for the Abused Adult Resource Center (AARC). Donations such as soap and shampoo, razors, toothbrushes, tooth paste or feminine hygiene products are welcome. All items can be dropped off at the donation box in the church narthex.

The Abused Adult Resource Center has been helping survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault for more than 40 years. Serving south central North Dakota, they provide emergency support, crisis intervention, temporary shelter, food, counseling, and advocacy to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking.

Funding to support the Abused Adult Resource Center is a patchwork of many sources: foundation grants, the United Way, state and federal programs, profits from Seeds of Hope Gift Store as well as corporate and individual gifts.

The AARC provides all of its services to victims free of charge.





# AUGUST

## First Presbyterian Church

214 East Thayer Ave.

Bismarck, ND 58501

Phone: 701-223-6091

[firstpresbyterian@fpcbismarck.com](mailto:firstpresbyterian@fpcbismarck.com)

[www.fpcbismarck.com](http://www.fpcbismarck.com)

Sunday Worship: 10:00 am

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



### AUGUST 2024 - BIRTHDAYS

- August 2 Brant Boeckel
- August 2 Kim Wassim
- August 4 Kim Christianson
- August 6 Matthew Skaret
- August 7 Enid Thompson
- August 8 Joanne Pearson
- August 8 Ashlee Fox
- August 10 Tamra Hellman
- August 12 Dale Hoerauf
- August 13 Backett Hao Hedland
- August 14 Ruth Jensen
- August 16 Lael Hoerauf
- August 18 Amy Kinnischtzke
- August 21 Connor Hellman
- August 22 Kenley Gratz
- August 23 Winston Satran
- August 24 Bryan Skager
- August 25 Sandra Cofell
- August 26 Jerry Wilson
- August 27 Tanner Ball
- August 27 Evelyn Bitz
- August 30 Jessica Feist
- August 31 Cole Svihovec

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



### AUGUST 2024 - ANNIVERSARIES

- August 10 Winston & Barb Satran
- August 16 Joe & Katherine Satrom
- August 17 Darin & Karmen Svihovec
- August 19 Larry & Peggy Hoge
- August 21 Rick & Lori Lee
- August 29 Mark & Sandra Ohlhauser

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 ~

#### Pastor

*Rev. Dr. Leanne Simmons*

#### Finance Assistant

*Carol Thompson*

#### Administrative Assistant

*Maureen Chrest*

#### Parish Nurse

*Carmen Bryhn*

#### Maintenance

*Brandon Schildberger*

#### Christian Ed. Youth Director

*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

*Ruth Jensen*

**SESSION HIGHLIGHTS**  
**Tuesday, July 23, 2024**

**CLERK’S REPORT**

With the transfer of Rusty Bender to FPC Fargo, membership is 309.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

Total Income YTD Actual	\$265,353	Budget	\$255,500
Total Expense YTD Actual	\$269,345	Budget	\$301,501
NET Income	-\$3,992	Budget	-\$46,001

**MODERATOR’S REPORT**

Church members will be invited to “cottage meetings” to join small group discussion about our church. More information will be coming in August.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Administrative and Personnel; Hospitality; Property and Equipment did not have meetings in July.

**Proclamation-Worship and Music**—An issue with the organ was promptly solved with the help of Scott Hauser. There are like-new hymnals in some of the pews, thanks to the Wilton Church.

**Proclamation—Christian Education**—The Amusement park event was well-attended. VBS is August 5-8.

**Resource Management**—A representative from Stifel investments met with the committee and indicated that no change was needed in the portfolios. October 13 has been set as Consecration Sunday. A CD was reinvested at 4.95 % interest.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Board of Deacons agreed to use \$2,000 from the Gift of Giving fund to help defray medical expenses of former Parish Nurse, Wanona Goetz.

Alice Nix, Clerk of Session



# August

# 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 NO Yoga Carmen on vacation - 7/25 - 8/5	2	3
4 10am Worship 11th Sunday after Pentecost communion	5 1:30pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:30-7:30pm VBS 6:00pm Hospitality 6:30pm Scouts	6 5:30-7:30pm VBS NO Prop.& Equipment NO Lay Pastors	7 Noon "Munch & Mingle" 5:30-7:30pm VBS	8 NO Yoga 5:30-7:30pm VBS	9	10
11 10am Worship 12th Sunday after Pentecost Second Sunday Concert: 6:30-8pm Highland Acres School playground (1200 Prairie Dr.)	12 5:30pm W & Music 6:30pm Scouts 7:00pm Christian Ed	13 5:30pm CCC Board	14 Carol on vacation - 8/13 - 8/23	15 2:00pm Yoga NO Deacons	16	17
18 10am Worship 13th Sunday after Pentecost	19 Noon -Resource Management 1:30pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 4:30pm Admin.& Personnel 6:30pm Scouts	20	21	22 2:00pm Yoga	23	24
25 10am Worship 14th Sunday after Pentecost	26 6:30pm Scouts	27 2:00pm Presby Friends 6:00pm Session	28 Mo on vacation - 8/28 - 8/30	29 2:00pm Yoga	30	31 OFFICES CLOSED MONDAY, SEPT. 2nd



# AUGUST

*August*

- 1 Civic/Provincial Day
- 1 Picnic Day
- 2 National Coloring Book Day
- 2 National Ice Cream Sandwich Day
- 3 National Watermelon Day
- 4 National Coast Guard Day
- 4 Single Working Women's Day
- 5 National Underwear Day
- 7 Friendship Day
- 7 National Lighthouse Day
- 7 Professional Speakers Day
- 8 National Zucchini Day
- 9 International Day of The World's Indigenous People
- 9 National Book Lovers Day
- 10 National Lazy Day
- 10 National S'mores Day
- 12 National Vinyl Record Day
- 13 National Prosecco Day
- 14 National Creamsicle Day
- 15 National Relaxation Day
- 18 National Fajita Day
- 18 Serendipity Day
- 19 National Soft Ice Cream Day
- 20 National Lemonade Day
- 22 Be An Angel Day
- 22 National Tooth Fairy Day
- 30 National Beach Day

