

November

Here
and Now!

November 2022

Volume 69, Issue 11

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PASTOR LEANNE'S MESSAGE: “

“Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day.

Teach him how to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.”

Chinese philosopher Lao Tzu, founder of Taoism

Presbyterians no longer have Missionaries. We have “Mission Co-workers.” This is more than just a simple change in nomenclature; it is a change in our church’s relational philosophy. Once, along with the rest of the church world, in all good intentions, we sent out Missionaries to share the gospel, but along with our message of hope, we often imposed our cultural priorities with a paternalistic flare. With time, our understanding of the universality of the gospel challenged us to take on the relational approach which was modelled by Christ- rather than standing over others, we seek to stand beside them. Rather than telling them what they need, we seek to equip them for the challenges of faith in their own times, places and terms. It is one of the things I love about being Presbyterian. There is a commitment to equip people for their own development and independent worship needs. The saying above (okay, it’s not from a Christian but it is still good common sense) spells out the value of this kind of ministry.

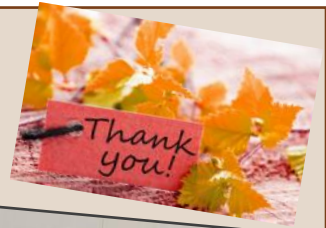
That’s why I love the Presbyterian Giving Catalog. (If you haven’t seen it, there are several in the church narthex for you to take.) As the holiday seasons come around, and we all begin thinking of ways to celebrate the birth of Christ through giving, I challenge you to check out the gifts that can be given to help others self-sustain. Some of them are expensive, granted – if one has an extra \$15,000 laying around, then one could buy a Deep Rock Well for places in this world where water is scarce. But others are far less expensive: for \$50, one can buy a sewing machine with which a woman in the developing world can make a living. For \$15, one can supply a fisherman with a net. For \$240 one can help heat a family home in Syria during the winter. I get so excited thinking about the major difference one person can make in the lives of others with a small gift.

This year, the youth and kids of our church are participating in such a project. They are making Christmas ornaments which they will sell, and the funds they raise will be used to buy families of chickens (for \$25) and/or piglets (for \$40 each) through the Presbyterian Giving Catalog. The works of their hands will be displayed in the church narthex near Thanksgiving time. I am excited to teach our children the importance of caring for their global neighbors. It is hard for them to imagine people and their circumstances in far away places, but it is not hard for them to picture an actual pig or chicken and understand that they are giving something special in this way. I invite you to join them as they learn to make a difference in our world. Stop by the table on Sunday, November 20th and check out their ornaments.



THANK YOU AGAIN FOR THE SUCCESSFUL HEALTH FAIR !!

Wanona



FROM OUR PARISH NURSE - WANONA

Happy Thanksgiving Everyone! Can you believe this year is almost over? This November is a month for appreciating your Savior, family, faith family, coworkers and friendships. I am so blessed to have the opportunity to be your Parish Nurse at First Presbyterian Church. Thank You All!

The Nursing Students have been shadowing me and I have heard positive remarks about their experiences from their professors. Thank you all for allowing them to shadow me during our visits and classes.

The Balance & Strengthening Exercise Classes are every Tuesday and Thursday at 11 am in Ramstad Hall. If there would be a church event on those days, the classes would be cancelled.

The November Blood Pressure Clinic will be Sunday, November 13th from 9am to 10 am and 11am to noon in the conference room. Everyone is welcome to have their Blood Pressure taken.

Here is a simple prayer of gratitude:

Thank you, Lord, for the blessings you have bestowed on my life. You have provided me with more than I could ever have imagined. You have surrounded me with people who always look out for me. You have given me family, faith family and friends who bless me every day with kind words and actions. Amen

A little girl was sitting next to her grandfather as he read her a bedtime story. From time to time, she would take her eyes off the book and reach up and touch his wrinkled cheek. She touched her own cheek, then she touched his. After a little while of thinking she asked, "grandpa, did God make you?" he looked at her and said, "Yes, sweetheart, God made me a long time ago." she paused for a few seconds and then asked, "grandpa, did God make me too?" He replied, "Yes, indeed pumpkin, God made you just a little while ago. Feeling their respective faces again, she whispered to him, "God's getting better at it, isn't he?!!!"

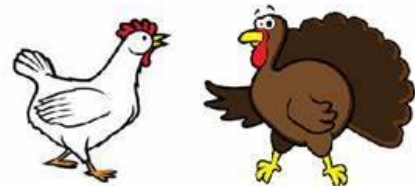
GOBBLE- GOBBLE GIGGLES:

**What do you call
a rude turkey?**



"A jerk-key!"

**Why did the farmer
have to separate the
chicken and the turkey?**



He sensed fowl play.

“A Word with Wanona” I would like to introduce you to Shawn Stettner. She is the First Presbyterian Church Child Care Center Director. Thank you, Shawn for sharing your story.

Shawn was born at Stanley Community Hospital and reared on a small farm in Ross, North Dakota. She has two siblings: an older sister Amber and a younger brother Martin. So her being a middle child probably explains a lot!

Her very first job was mowing and trimming the Ross Cemetery. Some of her work history includes being a steel siding applicator, a CNA at a hospital, a preschool teacher, owner of an in-home childcare program, an activity assistant at a nursing care facility, and a housekeeper at an assistive care facility. She also continues to call BINGO every Monday evening at a local care center.

She has continued to do this for over 20 years. It is her plan to go right from being a bingo caller to living there and has promised residents that on her last night of calling, she will call until midnight! She said: "I mean, it's not like they are going to fire me on my last night, right?"



Great-Great Grandpa Leonard

Shawn graduated from Severson High School in Stanley, ND. She attended college at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, ND. She received her Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and Early Childhood Education. She also earned a minor in Native American studies and a Kindergarten endorsement. She enjoyed her years at UND and met many wonderful people. She was especially thankful to have met Sara Hanhan, her advisor; Mae Marie Blackmore, the director at the University Children's Center, Laurel Haulting, her ECE supervisor and Kate Bialke, her mentor during her Early Childhood practicum at the UCC. These four women helped lay the foundation for Shawn by showing her what a quality early childhood program should be. Shawn has been the Director of the Child Care Center at First Presbyterian Church since June 1995.



Grandkids- Lucas, Mya, Logan

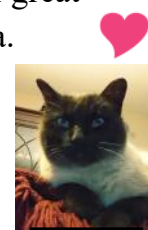
If you know Shawn, then you know she is a cat person! Her words, 'I like cats way better than anything. Just ask me about my soul-cat George!'

Shawn had three goals in life. (1) She wanted to be a teacher, (2) to serve many cats, (Cat lovers will understand that statement), and (3) To learn how to tap dance so she could be on the Lawrence Welk Show and tap dance with Arthur Duncan. So next time you see Shawn you will have to ask her if she accomplished goal #3! The most memorable event in Shawn's life is being blessed with the title of great grandma to a beautiful baby girl named Amor'a.



Shawn with Amor'a

Shawn says she is thankful for her faith in Jesus Christ, her Bible Class peeps, grandchildren and of course her great granddaughter! Shawn shared "What I remember, the funniest thing to happen to me was; I was a CNA and I spilled a commode full of urine down my leg and into my shoe! The patient was horrified but I was laughing so hard because every time I took a step my shoe made those funky squishing sounds. There was no sneaking up on any co-workers that day. Thank you Shawn for sharing your life journey!"



Willow



Handsome George



Jeffery (top) and Clarence (bottom)

CHILDCARE CENTER NEWS-

November is the month most everyone thinks of celebrating the Thanksgiving Holiday with family or friends. It is a good time to once again reflect upon what we are most THANKFUL for. The Childcare Center & Board wish to thank each and everyone of you who have contributed in any way to help keep FPC CCC open and operating efficiently as it can! Thank you to all of our wonderful volunteers, our dedicated CCC staff as well as our dedicated Church office staff. Thank you for your generous monetary donations, and for the October donations of the powdered dishwashing detergent, bleach and laundry detergent. We are so fortunate to have our church facility with many dedicated congregation members who support our CCC.

Many of the CCC staff and church office staff were present at the Sunday service on October 16th, where all were recognized for their dedication and length of time of their service. A short appreciation reception was held in the church parlor immediately following the service.

The CCC staff and Board are bringing back the "Breakfast with Santa" in Ramstad Hall on Saturday, December 3rd. Watch for updates and times, and a list of activities as the event draws nearer!

The request for November CCC needs list include: Dawn dish detergent, "cloth" infant books, and "waterproof" mittens for toddler and pre-Kindergarten children.

If you or anyone you know, would be interested in working with infants and children, please consider joining the great team at FPC CCC, either full time or part-time, by calling Shawn or Vanessa at 258-7490 or inquire at the church office. (Must be able to pass a fingerprint background check.)

The CCC staff and Board members wish each and everyone of you, a Happy, Blessed Thanksgiving!



CCC Needs for November:

Dawn dish soap & waterproof toddler and pre-k size mittens.



Follow-up to "Sock It to Me" Sunday!

As socks were being distributed during Project Service Connect, one woman came through the line carrying a barefoot toddler. She said, "good, my little one needs socks" and she immediately put them on the child.

One simple pair of socks made a difference...thanks again for your donations!

“THE BANQUET”

OUR CHURCH MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

Many thanks to all of our church family (including our Boy Scout Troop 6) who helped purchase, prepare, serve and clean at “The Banquet” located at the Dream Center on October 20th.

Thank you to all who contributed their time for this community meal.



Note: some volunteers had left before photos were taken.



THANKSGIVING DAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

“The Banquet” will be preparing and serving the annual community “**Thanksgiving Day Dinner**” on **Thursday, November 24, at 5:30 pm.**

Please use the sign-up sheet on the narthex bulletin board if you are able to volunteer.

There will be two shifts: 1:00 pm for preparation and 5:00 pm to help with serving.

The Dream Center is located at 1805 Park Ave.

This meal is provided for anyone who may be without family, single parents and their children, the homeless, senior citizens and those seeking fellowship. All are welcome.

Hospitality Committee:



PB&J Donations

Thank you to all who donated peanut butter and/or jelly for the school backpack program. Once again, peanut butter was the most popular donated item. The results were: peanut butter - 71 containers, jelly - 64 containers, and 3 jars of peanut butter/jelly combined. The jars will be distributed in backpacks to school children whose families face food insecurity over the weekends.

Community Action packs and distributes 1,862 bags of food each week to elementary, middle, and high schools. Each bag contains two hot meals and two breakfast items along with some healthy snacks.

Community Action's backpack program serves Bismarck, Mandan, Lincoln, and several smaller communities in the area. It takes a team of 30 volunteers to pack the bags, and a team of 16 to deliver them.



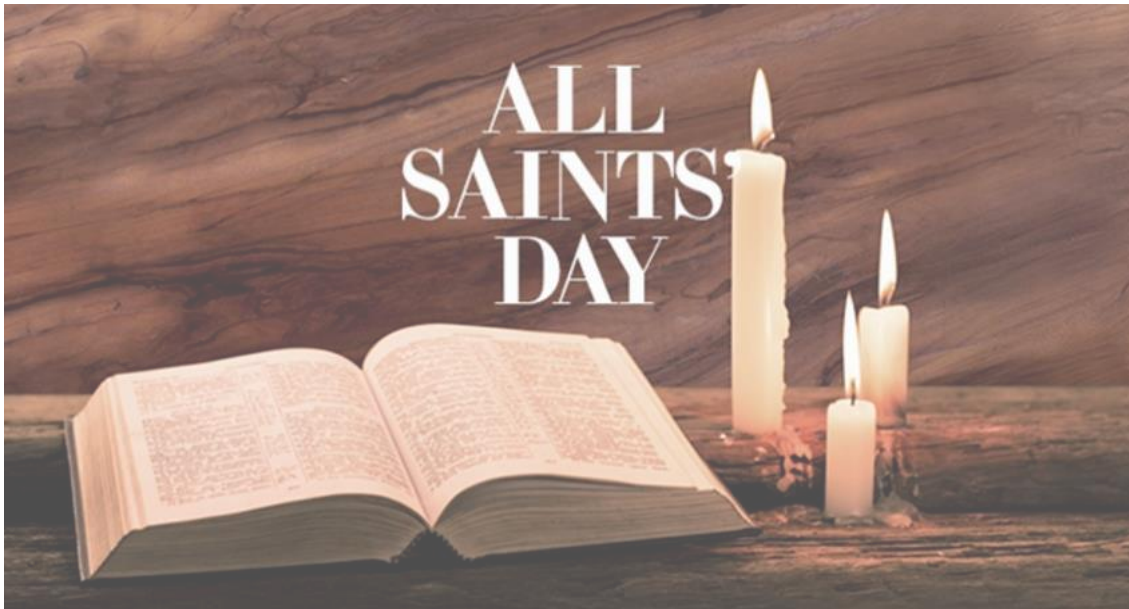
NOVEMBER DONATION OPPORTUNITY:



First Presbyterian Church will once again be collecting canned food items for the **Emergency Food Pantry** during November. The food pantry, a non-profit, volunteer organization has served this community since 1979. In 2021, the Food Pantry served an average of 628 individuals monthly, distributing an average of 14,395 lbs. of food each month.

This year, as the price of food continues to rise, donations are needed more than ever to support the work of the Food Pantry. **Please bring your donations of canned fruit and vegetables to the church any time during November and place them in the donation box in the narthex.**

NOVEMBER 6th - All Saints Day!



All Saints' Day is a moment to come together as Christians. This is a time for togetherness, family, and remembrance. There are many community and family events, and this holiday has a special place in many lives.

*Elaine Mahlum
Clinton Dykema
Vivian Kuipers
Aaron "Bud" Johnson
Lavern "Vern" Johnson
Robert "Bob" Tonolli
Georgene Lantz
Jonathan Thomson
Violette Ruff
Lois Borke*

RESOURCE & MANAGEMENT: PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING 2022

Dear Friends,

Through storms, fires, depressions and recently the pandemic, the church of God has proven herself up to the challenge of faithfully serving God in obedience to the teachings of Christ. For almost 150 years, this First Presbyterian Church has stood the tests of time. Now we are called to stand up again as the community of God which spreads the gospel, feeds the poor, and calms the troubled waters. Christ gives us the strength and courage to act in love, not hate, in the face of life's daily challenges.

Peacemaking is active not passive, doing not waiting. Let's let that sink in for a moment; peacemaking is active, not passive, doing, not waiting. A season of Peace is when we, the church together, are focused on seeking peace and reconciliation. Together we are building God's house of peace where all are welcome, where all can find compassion, peace, and justice.

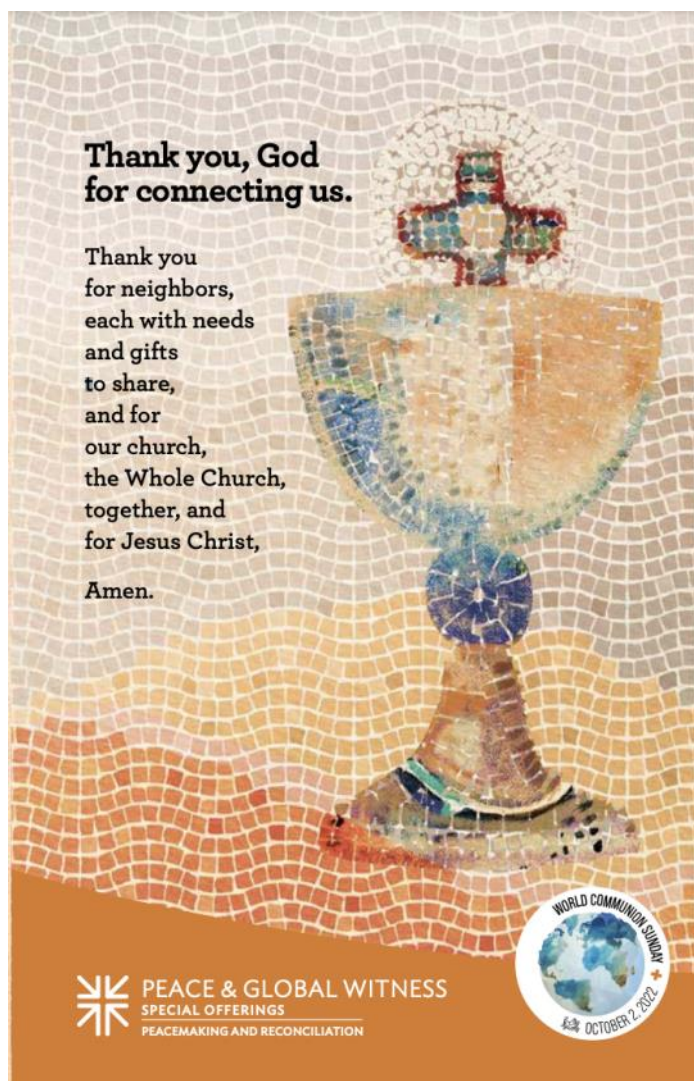
The Peace and Global Witness Offering will be Sunday, November 13, 2022.

The Resource Management Committee has chosen to give our 25% of the total offering to Energy Share. It is a cooperative effort of Community Action Agencies in ND, utility companies, and private donors to help low-income eligible households prevent electrical shutoffs when the situation has been deemed an emergency.

Through Presbyterian USA, we are given the opportunity to support many ministries nationwide. 50% of our offering will be used to help and heal through its established programs. 25% will go to our regional Presbytery or Synod that deals with needs in our area including conflicts within the local churches.

Your gift on **November 13, 2022**, will be most appreciated for this worthwhile mission.

Thank you.





Once each year, with a special Sunday worship service, many Presbyterian churches observe St. Andrew's Day as a means of celebrating their Scottish roots. Following a form of worship ceremony that dates back to 1564, various traditions are observed, most notably the "Kirkin' of the Tartan" - Kirk being the Scottish word for church. Kirkin' is a "symbol of freedom" that dates back to the defeat of Scottish highlanders by the British in 1746.

English penal laws banned all things Scottish, including wearing clan plaids, speaking or singing in their native Gaelic tongue, Scots dancing and the playing of bagpipes. British troops policed Scottish services to insure compliance. Although unlawful kirkin' was punishable by death, Scots would still sneak a bit of their tartan under their clothing on St. Andrew's Day and when the minister said a certain phrase, they would clutch their cloth and silently say a blessing in Gaelic.

Although there is no set liturgy, the service follows ancient tradition. Tartan banners may precede the minister into the sanctuary, Highland regalia worn, and scriptures may be read in Scots or Gaelic. Prayers offered to bless the tartans, acknowledge contributions of Scots to the Presbyterian church and to celebrate freedoms we often take for granted are shared. The entrance of the pastor is preceded by a "Beadle" (lay person) bearing the bible. Then, the pastor, accompanied by bagpiper escort, enters the sanctuary to signal the beginning of the service. Music will be Celtic in flavor. Our service includes traditional Highland bagpipes, flute and guitars, Celtic hymns and anthems (including some sung in Gaelic).

Later in the service the tradition continues with the presentation of a Scottish person bringing their distinctive plaid (representative of their clan, region or family ethnicity) forward at the Kirkin' ceremony for blessing by the pastor.

We encourage all people, whether Scots or other, to reflect with thanksgiving on their own family ethnicity by bringing an article representative of their heritage forward for blessing. It is a response of faith and acknowledgement of the sovereignty of God and a way to ask for God's blessing.

In keeping with the spirit of the occasion, all are encouraged to wear plaid or clothing representative of their heritage **Sunday, November 20**. Help us celebrate God's grace poured out to all generations.

Debi Rogers

THE HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

During Advent, our congregation has an opportunity to participate in the “**Tree of Love Ministry**”. This ministry supports and connects our congregation to the families of children in the First Presbyterian Child Care Center.



For virtual members, a list will be emailed out once it is finalized.

Please bring or send items to the church; the church’s address is 214 E Thayer Ave. Bismarck, ND 58501.

Please wrap your gift and put the gift tag with its contents on the gift. Place your donation under the tree.

All gifts should be delivered by **Wednesday, December 14.**

We will wrap any unwrapped gifts.

For many families, requests for laundry soap and other household items reflect how limited their financial resources are. Please understand that for many of these families, our donations of these items will allow them to use their limited resources for other necessities like food and rent. Our families are grateful for your donations!



Sunday, November 20th
Boy Scout Troop 6
Will deliver your wreaths & swags



REMINDER:
THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE
AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Wednesday, November 23 at 7:30pm

OUR CHILD CARE CENTER CHILDREN HAD A WONDERFUL HALLOWEEN COSTUME PARADE!!



WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE

WE WILL BE DECORATING THE CHURCH FOR CHRISTMAS ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, STARTING AT 9:30 AM. ALL ARE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED TO PARTICIPATE!



150TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE -

The 150th Anniversary Committee is coming along with plans for next year's celebration. It will start with a Tea in April. If you recall the teas from the Festival of the Arts, then you know how special that will be. The big celebration week will be in June. Plans include two special worship services, a special event for PAC, a concert, and a big party. The party will include the band "Braveheart", food vendors, special events for children, quilt show, historical exhibit, and an exhibit showing our engagement in the community. We hope everyone will be as excited about this as the committee is and will participate. There is still time to get your family stories in, so please do so if you have not done it yet. The stories will be included in an updated history of the church.

Bring into the church office,
or email: firstpresbyterian@fpcbismarck.com



**SESSION HIGHLIGHTS
OCTOBER 25, 2022**

CLERK'S REPORT

The death of Jonathan Thomson October 17 was reported. Membership is 321. Session approved the baptism request of Marete and Colby Farver for their son, Finn Howard Farver. The baptism will be on December 25. The Clerk fulfilled the Presbytery requirement of having the Session Records and Rolls reviewed on September 28; both were approved with no exceptions.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Income YTD Actual	\$349,175	Budget	\$372,900
Expense YTD Actual	\$392,550	Budget	\$433,301
NET Income	-\$43,375	Budget	-\$60,401
General Fund	\$252,097 (unrestricted)		

MODERATOR'S REPORT

Pastor Leanne stated that Elder and Deacon Training will be November 5, beginning with breakfast at 9:00am. Called Session meeting will be at lunchtime with attendance of all current Elders requested to examine new candidates and vote. "Future Thinking Playbook" will be the basis of the afternoon discussion. Gratitude was expressed for Interns Mark Jensen and Sophie Svihovec for helping with children/youth. Grae'l Gannon has donated many theology books which will be placed on bookshelves being assembled.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Hospitality—Thanks to all those who helped serve the Banquet on October 20. Ministry on the Margins will organize Thanksgiving dinner at the Dream Center; 10 volunteers are needed.

Proclamation-Worship and Music- November 6 is recognition of All Saints Day; November 20 is St. Andrew's celebration and new officer installation. Decorating the church for Christmas will begin at 9:30am on November 26. Children's Christmas program and Red/Green Potluck will be December 11.

Proclamation-Christian Education—Presentation of Bibles was changed to October 30. The church hosted a Presbyterian Youth event over the October school break. Children will make ornaments to sell to raise funds to buy an animal for a family in a developing nation. (Presbyterian Giving Catalog)

Property and Equipment—The committee will likely approve adding outside lights on the east side of the church.

Resource Management—US Bank representatives met with the committee to discuss options for use of part of the \$450,000 in operating funds that could be invested.

Joe Bachmeier will conduct the practices/procedures audit.

To date about \$262,000 and 103 pledges have been received in the Stewardship drive. Session approved the preliminary budget based on 3% staff increase. Total income \$524,787 and total expense \$590,995, for a deficit of \$76,208.

Board of Deacons—Please volunteer to usher and invite like-minded members to help as a group (like golfers, teachers, hunters). Disposable communion cups will be continued throughout the flu season.

Child Care Center Board—Breakfast with Santa will be December 3. The center received a stabilization grant of \$5,350. The center will be eligible for one more grant.

Anniversary Committee—Many events are being planned for June 17-18. High tea will be held after Easter.

Alice Nix, Clerk of Session





Anniversary & Birthday List

BIRTHDAYS **NOVEMBER**

Valerie Sturlaugson	6th
Dan Halvorson	11th
Parker Ronningen	11th
Jan Gilchrist	12th
Corby Svihovec	13th
Emily Ehrens	16th
McKinley Stokka	17th
Lynne Bigwood	17th
Geraldine Morrison	20th
Ann Lynch	20th
Doug Bradford	21st
Shari Orser	25th
Jeff Schafer	26th
Brady Wohl	30th



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUNDAYS - 1:30 PM

VIA - ZOOM

NOT ON NOVEMBER 27TH



grateful
THANKFUL
blessed

*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 ~

ANNIVERSARIES **NOVEMBER**

John & Jodi Bjornson	2nd
Kim & Gail Christianson	3rd
Roberto & Hanna Luciano	8th
Les & Tammy Lem	11th
Darren & Denise Gratz	18th
Jerry & Priscilla Wilson	23rd

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

Youth Ministry Assistant

Marete Farver

Organists

Arvy Smith & Gail Snustad

Choir Director

Debi Rogers

Handbell Ensemble Director

Lael Hoerauf

Maintenance Manager

Tony Bartole

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. Interns

Sophie Svihovec & Mark Jensen

NOVEMBER 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 11:00am Bal. & Strength Class 5:45pm Prop. & Equipment 6:30pm Lay Pastors	2 5:45pm PAC/Teens 6:30pm Bells 7:30pm Choir	3 11:00am Bal. & Strength Class 5:30pm Yoga	4	5 9am - 3pm Training Elders & Deacons (Ramstad Hall)
6 10:00am Worship All Saints Day! 	7 1:30PM PRAYER SHAWL 5:30pm Suzuki 6:30pm Scouts 7:00PM Christ. Ed	8 11:00am Bal. & Strength Class 5:30pm CCC Board	9 5:45 pm PAC/Teens 6:30pm Bells 7:30pm Choir	10 11:00am Bal. & Strength Class 5:30pm Yoga 6:00pm Hospitality	11	12 10:00AM-NOON PAC/TEENS MAKING CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS
13 10:00am Worship	14 5:30pm Worship & Music 5:30pm Suzuki 6:30pm Scouts	15 11:00am Bal. & Strength Class	16 5:45 pm PAC/Teens 6:30pm Bells 7:30pm Choir	17 11:00am Bal. & Strength Class 5:30pm Yoga 7:00pm Deacons	18	19
20 10:00am Worship ST. ANDREW'S DAY! Installation of Elders & Deacons BOY SCOUTS DELIVERING THE WREATHS PAC/TEENS SELLING CHRISTMAS ORNAMENTS	21 Noon -Resource Management 1:30pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:00pm Admin. Personnel 5:30pm Suzuki 6:30pm Scouts	22 11:00am Bal. & Strength Class 2:00pm Presby Friends At Augusta Place 6:00pm Session	23 NO PAC/Teens NO Bells or Choir 7:30pm Thanksgiving Eve Service	24 OFFICE CLOSED 5:30PM Thanksgiving Dinner served at Dream Center - 1805 Park Ave.	25 OFFICE CLOSED	26 <i>Decorate church for Christmas 9:30am</i> 
27 10:00am Worship 1st Sunday of Advent NO Sunday School	28 5:30pm Suzuki 6:30pm Scouts	29 11:00am Bal. & Strength Class	30 5:45pm PAC/Teens 6:30pm Bells 7:30pm Choir			



FAMILY NEWS

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR YOUR HEALING TOUCH:

DON BIGWOOD

LEE DOOLITTLE

GRAEL GANNON

BERNIE SCHUE

NILS PEARSON

LINDA TONOLLI