



**Here
and Now!**

September 2022

Volume 69, Issue 9

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PASTOR LEANNE'S MESSAGE: “

But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

2 Corinthians 4:7 (NIV)

I have always wondered about the Apostle Paul's physical well-being. Certainly, he had a keen mind and a powerful personality with lots of drive... but his life was so full of physical effort. What was that like? Ancient, unsubstantiated accounts of his self-presentation are not generous: they describe him as short and bow-legged, with a large nose, and weak, runny eyes. There are suggestions that he was nearly blind, and yes, perhaps that when he spoke, he spit. Who knows, of course, those suggestions do not come from reliable sources.

But we do know what he himself said about his life experiences: "I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. ²⁴Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. ²⁵Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, ²⁶I have been constantly on the move. I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers. ²⁷I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked" (2 Cor. 11:23-27).

I have wondered, with a life like that, what was the toll his many injuries took on his body? Did he ache when he walked? Was his back scarred and painful? When he got up in the morning and began to move around, did he groan and require time to loosen up? Many of us know the consequences of lives of heavy lifting and hard labor without ever having been beaten or abused. It seems to me that the Apostle could not have escaped the aches and pains that come as a result of a hard life.



PASTOR'S MESSAGE CONTINUED:

Perhaps that is why we described our existences as “a treasure which is contained in a fragile clay vessel.” He knew the limitations of the body, the pain and the hinderance it can be when a vibrant, active mind with energetic aspirations is stuck coping with a body that cannot keep up. But as difficult as that can be, he never seems to speak of it as an insurmountable hinderance. In fact, for him, that makes it all the more beautiful that God works through us, and it is evidence that God’s ongoing grace and power is not confined to the limits we perceive in ourselves. God is at work in us, in all situations, and God has gifted us with a role to play in the Kingdom, despite our human frailties.

We can be so hard on ourselves, get so impatient with our weaknesses and self-demeaning with the changes our bodies experience. We can think that we have reached a point where we are useless to others and to God. We tell ourselves that we are not equipped to make much of a difference. We get restless to be young again, to be stronger, or prettier, or more athletic or more mobile. But maybe it’s time to listen to the Apostle, who summed up our embodied lives in one way: it’s about God, and that makes it good. Just as we are, we matter.

Leanne



FPC is excited to announce that “Yoga for Life”

by Susan Thompson is coming back!

Thursdays 5:30pm- 6:30pm

Starting on Thursday, September 8th, 2022



THANK YOU TO CLYDE JOHNSON, BOB KINNISCHTZE, TONY BARTOLE, AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE PROPERTY & EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE WHO HAVE HELPED PLANTING, WATERING AND MAINTAINING THE BEAUTIFUL FLOWER BEDS THIS YEAR!!



FROM OUR PARISH NURSE - WANONA

Happy Labor Day everyone! This summer has blown by so fast. I was able to spend some awesome time with my 8 grandchildren this summer. What a blessing they are!



This month we will be having senior nursing students shadow me starting September 6th. The students are from the University of Mary and NDSU School of Nursing. Their year runs from September 3rd to November 3rd. They will resume shadowing in January 2023. We will restart the Balance & Strengthening Classes on October 4th, 2022. We will meet in Ramstad Hall every Tuesday and Thursday at 11 am. If there should be an event scheduled on class day we will not meet.

The Sunday Blood Pressure Clinic will begin October 9th, 2022 from 9am -10am and 11am - noon.

I am excited to have our first Health Fair on Thursday, September 29th from 10am - 2pm. It's FREE admission, we will be selling caramel rolls, walking taco's, coffee and bottled water. There will be door prizes and we are expecting about 27 vendors. Thank you to all the members who volunteered to help with this event.

I will be taking some time off from September 19th to September 23rd, 2022 to help my sister.



If you would like to have your blood pressure checked, Please contact Wanona or the front office to make an appt. 223-6091. Sunday Blood Pressure Clinics start October 9th.



GIGGLES:

Little Philip was spending the weekend with his grandmother after a particularly trying week in day care. His grandmother decided to take him to the park on Saturday morning. It had been snowing all night and everything was beautiful. His grandmother commented, 'Doesn't it look like an artist painted this scenery? Did you know God painted this just for you?'

'Yes,' replied Philip, 'God did it and he did it left handed.'

This confused his grandmother so she asked him, 'What makes you say God did this with his left hand?'

'Well,' said Philip, 'we learned at Sunday School last week that Jesus sits on God's right hand!'

A mother goes to get her child something to eat. Billy wanted a kids meal with a chicken leg so she went through the drive through and said, "Kids meal with the leg". The lady asked "which side?" The mother looked at the lady in complete silence as she contemplates such an odd question. Finally the mother says, "I guess the right side, I don't know what the difference is". After several moments of laughter the lady said, "No honey which side would you like to go with the leg? The choices are mash potatoes or wedges.



“A Word with Wanona”

I would like to introduce Ella and Tedd Gutzke.

Ella was born in Minot, North Dakota on December 22, a cold day with blizzard conditions working through the entire state of North Dakota. Her parents were on the way to the hospital per taxi and were in an auto accident due to the weather and icy road conditions. Ella’s mother was in active labor at this time and delivered Ella with a broken pelvis and Ella’s dad (hit his head) received a head fracture from this accident. Ella was born that evening completely black and blue. She was raised with six brothers and five sisters. Her parents moved to Michigan when she was five with the first six children. They had six more children in Michigan and moved back to North Dakota in 1971 with the other six children. The twelve of them have a very close bond because they were raised in a very abusive and dysfunctional family. Her mother was a very hard working lady who was the sole provider for the family. Unfortunately, her father was an alcoholic, and very abusive. She wanted to share this information proving they had beat the odds and all have completed their education, and have done well in their careers. They all have wonderful families and enjoy life.



ELLA 5TH GRADE

Ella’s first job was working as a life guard at the high school she graduated from during the winter and summer months. She worked at the school pool because she was on the swim team and the Girls Athletic Association Club for swimming and other sports. She also competed in swimming for the State of Michigan. (Made first place in the American Free Style, Back Stroke, and Breast Stroke.)

Ella’s working experience, as soon as she was old enough, included cleaning houses, ironing and babysitting until she turned 16. She worked at the high school as a life guard until she graduated from Wayne Memorial High School in 1968. Ella worked at Big Boy in Michigan for six months as a waitress which she truly loved; however, she accepted a better job at Eloise Hospital at Eloise, Michigan for six years in business and accounting.

Ella graduated from Wayne Memorial High School in 1968. Her graduating class had over 800 students. She felt very honored to attend Wayne High because the curriculum was amazing. The school offered four different languages, advanced classes, foods, accounting, and health classes that were considered college prep classes in that day. She completed her advanced education in nursing and business administration after Tedd completed his college education in Wildlife Biology. She worked as a practicing nurse doing patient care, promoted to administrative nursing positions for 10 years, after completing her business administration degree she was CEO for Hospital/Nursing Home Complexes for more than 35 years.



WEDDING DAY 1970

Ella met Tedd in high school study hall however, he just lived a block behind her home. Their backyards were caddy corner from one another. Ella first went out with Tedd when she was a junior in high school and didn’t go out with him again until after she graduated from high school.

Ella had three goals or more after she graduated from high school. These goals were to meet a man that was tall/blond and brown eyes, educated, treated her as an equal and with respect; have a career as a professional, no debts, and have eight children (only had two). These goals have been met. Tedd is tall, blond (once) brown eyes, college educated, treats everyone with respect and they both completed college and careers as professionals and financially able to always pay their bills. Sometimes it was tough but they always managed. They also have two lovely daughters and four grandchildren. Didn’t quite make it to eight children. They both have been blessed and still are.



“A Word With Wanona” Continued:

The most memorable event in Ella’s life was marrying Tedd and being with him for 54 years married 52. Having her two daughters was the other most memorable event in her life.

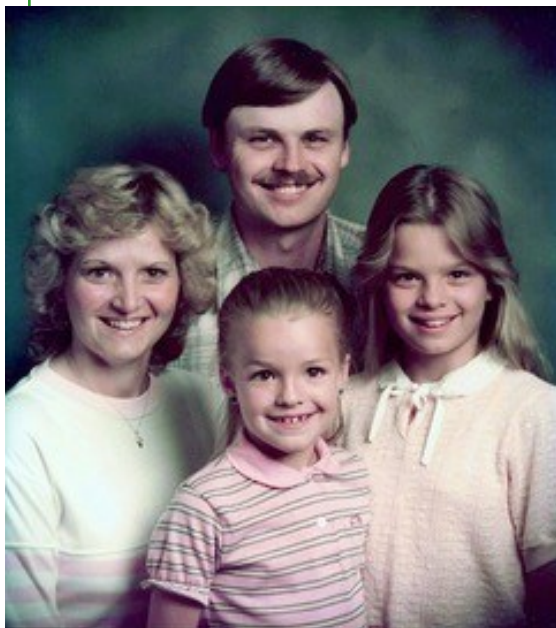
Ella is so thankful to God for bringing Tedd into her life and providing the best years of her life with their family. Adventures of moving to different regions in the United States and experiencing the challenges of living and raising their girls to appreciate the beauty and goodness of each area they lived.



DATING 1968

Tedd is for sure her hero, best friend and soul mate. Before she met Tedd and married him she said her oldest brother Frank was her hero because he was always there to protect her and her 10 siblings.

The funniest thing that happened to Ella was when she turned 30. A friend made a cake for her birthday and brought the white sponge cake to the house to celebrate with her and her family. She couldn’t wait for Ella to cut the cake. “We had candles, sang and had fun. She gave me a knife to cut the cake and I attempted to cut the cake with this knife over and over and over again as she is standing back laughing.” Ella didn’t catch on until about 6 or 7 attempts. Ella even changed the knife. You see this was an actual “SPONGE CAKE” made out of a sponge. They laughed so hard and had so much fun after. Her daughters were little and they thought that was the best joke ever.

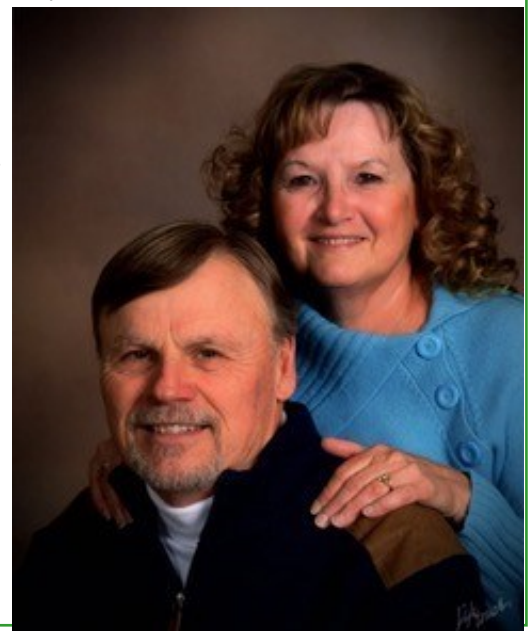


Tedd and Ella became members of the First Presbyterian Church approximately 12 years. They felt and still do feel they made the right decision to join. They feel our church members are very welcoming and warm to new and present members. The compassion and dedication to the FPC is remarkable and you feel included and welcomed.

Tedd has been involved with the Property and Equipment Committee for over 10 years and has been a Deacon twice. He also has done extra volunteer work repairing and assisting with changes in the church. Of course he always assists Ella with her volunteer work at the church. For example when she was on the Fine Arts Committee he would help her with supplies

and transferring and clean up after the functions. She has been and still is involved with some committees. She volunteered in the Fine Arts Committee (Treasurer), Business and Finance (still), Administrative/Personnel Committee, Child Care Center Board (still) and volunteers doing their Bulletin Board, finances for the CCC, Elder, did ushering, lay reader and treasurer for FPC. She wishes to conclude this small and brief story thanking God for the blessing he has given her, Tedd and their family.

Thank you Ella for sharing your life journey.



CCC NEWS-

The FPCCC is currently interested in hiring a full-time team member to work with the preschool-aged children. The hours would typically be from 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday. Applications can be picked up at either the main church office or the Child Care Center office. For more information, please call **258-7490** and ask for Shawn or Vanessa.
(must be able to pass a fingerprint background check)

Looking for a new and delicious breakfast idea for those crazy school mornings? This easy-to-make breakfast is perfect for those days. It would even be a nice protein-packed breakfast for adults to enjoy before heading off to work.

Autumn Egg & Ham Bites

Breakfast/Snack Crediting for Ages 3-5 & 6-18

Total Time

20 minutes

Serving Size

1 bite

Servings

24



Components

Meat/Meat Alternate

Ingredients

- Vegetable oil spray
- 10 large eggs
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1/2 tbsp onion powder
- 1 cup spinach, finely chopped
- 4 slices Canadian bacon or ham, diced
- 3/4 cup shredded cheese

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 350° F.
2. Spray mini muffin tin with vegetable oil.
3. In a medium bowl, beat the eggs, milk and onion powder.
4. Add the spinach and diced meat into the egg mixture.
5. Pour out evenly, filling about halfway into all 24 mini muffin cups. Add 1/2 tbsp of cheese to the top of each muffin cup.
6. Bake for 15 minutes or until egg mixture looks puffed up, the top is golden brown, and the egg is cooked through.

This month's needs item for the Child Care Center is boxes of Kleenex.



THE HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Thank you to all who donated gently used sheets, pillowcases, mattress pads, blankets, comforters and pillows for Ministry on the Margins. We have a very generous congregation who is always willing to help those less fortunate in our community. Your donations are much appreciated.



THE HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE -

September is back to school for Bismarck and Mandan students, many of whom are homeless or at risk of being homeless. Although breakfasts and lunches are available for these students during the school week, many students may lack food over the weekends. Our congregation has been a long-time supporter of Community Action's Backpack Program, which provides food-filled backpacks for these students every Friday afternoon.

The Hospitality Committee is again asking members to donate to this vital program by contributing peanut butter and jelly during the month of September. Your PBJ donations (plastic containers only, please) can be put in the donation box in the narthex.



“Sock It To Me Sunday” – September 18th

From the late 60s and early 70s, many of you will remember the “sock it to me” expression from the television series “Laugh In.” Sunday, September 18, our church will be collecting and throwing socks from the balcony and pews into baskets at a designated time.

Socks from infant to adult sizes for both male and female are appreciated and will be distributed through Project Service Connect.

Let's make this a super fun event to help our community have warm feet this fall and winter.



Sock-It-To-Me!

CHRISTIAN ED COMMITTEE



Thank you so much to our amazing volunteers, cooks, bakers, and youth for making this year's VBS the best possible! This year, we had more youth attend than the year before and that was only made possible because of the countless volunteers and families!



On behalf of the Christian Ed Committee, THANK YOU!



REMINDER:

Sunday School (children & adults) will begin September 11th
PAC/Presbyteens will begin September 14th

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

August 23, 2022

NEW MEMBER

Session approved the transfer of membership to FPC Bismarck for Rusty Bender. He was previously a member of Cooperstown Presbyterian Church. Rusty desires to be baptized again and Session voted to approve.

FINANCIAL REPORT

| | | | |
|--|-----------|--------|-----------|
| Total Income YTD Actual | \$267,634 | Budget | \$281,267 |
| Total Expense YTD Actual | \$310,377 | Budget | \$342,224 |
| NET Income | -\$42,743 | Budget | -\$60,957 |
| Unrestricted General Fund | \$252,729 | | |
| Memorial Gift from Kuipers' estate added to investments: \$93,596. | | | |

MODERATOR'S REPORT

Pastor Leanne thanked the Nominating Committee, Elders and office staff. Preparations are being made for new Elder/Deacon training.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative and Personnel—The committee approved the rental of a church room for a yoga class.

Hospitality—Our church will deliver Meals-on Wheels in September. Peanut butter/jelly will be collected in September along with socks for the homeless. Volunteers will be need for serving the Banquet on September 19.

Proclamation-Christian Education—29 children participated in VBS. Sunday school begins September 11, Pac/Teens will begin Sept 14.

Proclamation-Worship/Music—A separate budget will be made for the Anniversary Committee. The committee needs to purchase some equipment for video streaming to use when Josh Stokka is not available

Property and Equipment—The roof has been inspected and is in good shape. Scout Troop 6 will help stain playground equipment.

Resource Management—Stifel, Nicolaus & Co. reviewed the investment portfolio and recommended continuing the 65% Equity Funds and 35% Fixed Income funds for the next year. Session approved this recommendation.

Child Care Center Board—Stabilization grants continue to help the budget. There were 29 children enrolled in July.

Alice Nix, Clerk of Session





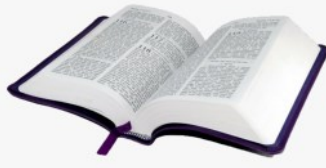
Anniversary & Birthday List

ANNIVERSARIES SEPTEMBER

David & Julie Van Voorhis 16th

BIRTHDAYS SEPTEMBER

| | |
|--------------------|------|
| Karen Ehrens | 1st |
| Maren Stokka | 1st |
| Angie Hoerauf | 2nd |
| John Thomas | 5th |
| Clayton Carlson | 10th |
| Lynn Johnson Dodge | 13th |
| Edith Ruff | 13th |
| Becky Rosenkranz | 14th |
| Elizabeth Lucas | 15th |
| Rick Lee | 18th |
| Charee Linton | 19th |
| Jack Luciano | 24th |
| Keith Magnusson | 24th |
| Tom Lannoye | 25th |
| Anita Fru Alah | 25th |
| Dennis Rosenkranz | 25th |
| Kathryn Brown | 25th |
| Kathy Mayer | 27th |
| Tedd Gutzke | 27th |
| Brynn Asselin | 27th |
| Stuart Libby | 28th |



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

STARTING ON

SUNDAY, SEPT. 11TH

**BE WATCHING IN THE BULLETINS
FOR MORE INFORMATION**



*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 ~

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

SEPTEMBER

2022

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|--|
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| 4 10:00 am Worship | 5 OFFICE CLOSED (Labor Day) 6:30 pm Scouts | 6 5:45 pm Prop. & Equipment | 7 6:30 pm W. Chimes | 8 5:30 pm Yoga 6:00 pm Hospitality | 9 | 10 4:30- 7:30pm FISH FRY AT FIRST PRES. CHURCH IN WILTON  |
| 11 10:00 am Worship BACK TO CHURCH SUNDAY  | 12 5:30 pm Proc. Worship & Music 5:30 pm Suzuki 6:30 pm Scouts 7:00 pm Proc. Christian Ed. | 13 5:30 pm CCC Board | 14 5:45 pm First Night Back ~ PAC/ Teens 6:30 pm W. Chimes 7:30pm Choir | 15 5:30 pm Yoga 7:00pm Deacon's | 16 | 17 |
| 18 10:00 am Worship "SOCK-IT-TO- ME-SUNDAY!" | 19 Noon -Resource Management 1:30pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:00 pm Admin. Personnel 5:30 pm Suzuki 6:30 pm Scouts "THE BANQUET" AT DREAM CENTER | 20 | 21 5:45 pm PAC/Teens 6:30 pm W. Chimes 7:30 pm Choir | 22 FIRST DAY OF AUTUMN  | 23 | 24 Papa's Pumpkin Patch! (more info to come!) |
| 25 10:00 am Worship | 26 6:30 pm Scouts | 27 2:00 pm Presby Friends At Augusta Place 6:00 pm Session | 28 5:45 pm PAC/Teens 6:30 W. Chimes 7:30pm Choir | 29 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM FPC HEALTH FAIR ! 5:30pm Yoga | 30  | |



Add Your Voice
Chir

Dear singing friends,

Hope your summer was wonderful. It's time again to join our voices together in song!

All adults and youth are welcome to join our Chancel Choir (no audition needed) in the sanctuary Wednesday, September 14th @ 7:30 for our first rehearsal.

At First Presbyterian we're blessed with marvelous musicians and would love for you to sing with us. The choir rehearses Wednesday nights from 7:30 -8:30 pm in the sanctuary and prepares at least 4 weeks ahead, so don't worry if you can't attend every rehearsal. As always, I'm open and eager for your comments about repertoire and any other ideas you have.

Family visits, traveling adventures, yoga and performances rounded out my fabulous summer. But more importantly, I'm eager to hear of your summer exploits!

Singing in choir is a meaningful, exhilarating and spiritual way to serve our congregation. We'd be thrilled to have your voice to join with ours in harmony. It's time to share the music living inside of you in joyful praise!

See you soon...

Debi Rogers
Chancel Choir Director
701-226-6890



Make a Joyful noise Unto The Lord!

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth: make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise.
Psalm 98:4, KJV

And what better way to make a loud and joyful noise than with handbells!
The Westminster Chimes handbell ensemble will be returning to regular rehearsals and monthly worship contributions this September and all are welcome to rejoice with us!

Our rehearsals are on Wednesday nights from 6:30pm -7:30pm beginning September 7th through May. Our lineup varies in number and faces according to ringer schedules so commitments are flexible.

Call or text director Lael Hoerauf at 527-1953 if you are interested in scheduling a personal introduction to handbells.

Let's make a joyful noise together!

Lael Hoerauf
Westminster Chimes Director
527-1953



The BANQUET

A Community Meal

HELP NEEDED: "THE BANQUET"

THE HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE is looking for volunteers to assist with "The Banquet" on **Monday, September 19th, 4:30pm**. At the new Dream Center (1805 Park Avenue). Six volunteers will be needed to prepare, serve and clean up. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex on the bulletin board.

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.

SAVE!
the **DATE!**

SAVE THE DATE:

"THE BANQUET" DINNER - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20TH

(20 VOLUNTEERS NEEDED)



TRANSPORTATION FOR MEMBERS IS AVAILABLE AGAIN!

Our church is providing transportation for members who are unable to transport themselves to and from church services. You will need to call a designated driver on Saturday to inform him or her that you need a ride. Please contact Dennis Rosenkranz at **400-2035** for more information.

Resource Management Committee -

PER CAPITA
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

PER CAPITA This is a reminder that if you have not yet made your per capita payment, your per capita fee of \$48/member can be paid at any time during the year. The Per Capita fee is the assessment the church pays for each member which goes to the larger Presbyterian Church of PCUSA to provide funds for the operation of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly offices, as well as some of the mission programs of the denomination (PCUSA).

Our church is assessed \$48 per member and pays this fee out of the budgeted funds of the General Fund. It is requested that each member consider making a \$48.00 payment to the church as a special offering to cover this amount. If paying by check make the check out to the church and note on the memo line "Per Capita".



FAMILY NEWS

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR YOUR HEALING TOUCH:

JERRY LINDBLOM

LEE DOOLITTLE

BERNIE SCHUE

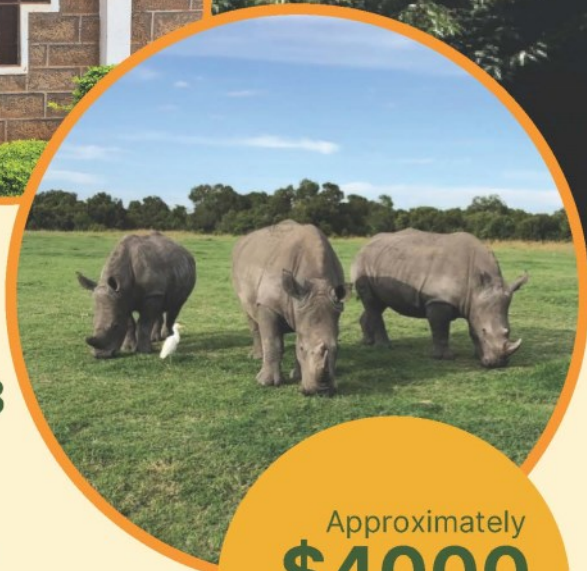
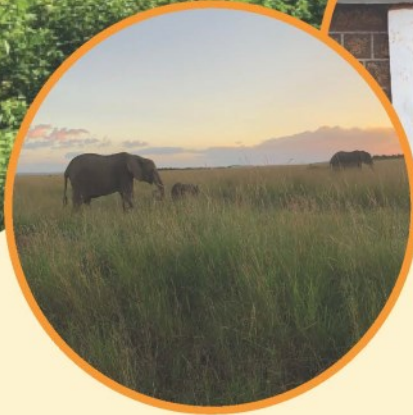
DON BIGWOOD

GRAEL GANNON

GENEVIEVE VOEGELE

PNP YOUTH TRIP

To Kenya



JULY 27-AUG 11, 2023

PNP Youth in 6th-12th grade are invited! If you are under 16, you will need a parent/guardian to travel with you.

Activities will include: meeting our partners, attending worship, service projects, and going on safari.

Approximately
\$4000
Per Person

Price does not include cost of passport or visa.

If you would like to register or have any questions, please contact Kayla Bones at kbones@firstpresfargo.org or 701-293-6311.

DEPOSIT SCHEDULE:

First Deposit due October 15, 2022: \$500 (secures place on trip)
Second Deposit due January 15, 2023: \$1500 (deadline to register)
Third Deposit due May 15, 2023: \$2000

Due to advance purchases and contracts, refunds cannot be made after January 15, 2023.