



COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING MEAL

Roasted turkey and all the trimmings will be served in Ramstad Hall on Thanksgiving Day from **11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.** Our Outreach Committee, with Session approval, has formed a partnership with *Ministry on the Margins* to enable us to offer this special dinner to our community members.

Last year we served 245 guests with loving hospitality of volunteers. We are planning for 300 plus guests in 2017. Again this year, the church family members serving on the eleven member planning committee are Karen Ehrens, Duane Ehrens, Sue Sorlie and Gladys Cairns. We remain grateful to other church family members that helped last year. Special thanks to Les and Charee for their dedicated service that enables us to present this dinner.

A joyful, loving volunteer opportunity to serve our guests was presented last year to not only our church family members but helpers from across our community. Eighty plus volunteers gave their time to present this Thanksgiving dinner. Volunteers also joined our other guests in the enjoyment of the dinner.

Again this year we are offering this volunteer opportunity. A sign-up sheet is available on the Volunteer Bulletin Board. Helpers are needed on Wednesday to prepare the food and to decorate the tables in Ramstad Hall. On Thanksgiving Day we need volunteers to represent our church, to help and greet our guests. We also would be grateful for church members to help return Ramstad Hall to pre-dinner status.

The Thanksgiving dinner experience was and will be a wonderful event to celebrate the gratitude of our ability to serve others as Christ Jesus has asked. (If you have questions about the dinner or volunteer opportunities feel free to contact Gladys Cairns at 255-6911.)

Thanks so much for your interest!

THANKSGIVING MEAL 2016



PASTOR'S MESSAGE...

"I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed throughout the world..." (Romans 1:8)

"I thank my God always for you...for in every way you have been enriched in him..."
(1 Corinthians 1:4)

"...I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers..."
(Ephesians 2:16)

"We always give thanks to God for all of you..." (1 Thessalonians 1:2)

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." (1 Thessalonians 5:16-18)

Happy Thanksgiving during this month of November—and actually, for *always*!

As you can see from these examples from just a few of the letters of Paul the Apostle—he was quite generous, prolific, profuse, and also very genuine, in freely expressing his thanks for the faith and friendship he knew. To be such an affirming person might have been Paul's nature—but without doubt it certainly was a spiritual gift that had come alive in him as a direct result of his living in Jesus Christ.

Our own country's recognition of Thanksgiving, dates back to such events as: the story of the 1620s feast of gratitude by Pilgrims and their Native American neighbors; President George Washington's first proclamation of Thanks as Nation in 1789; to President Abraham Lincoln in 1863 setting aside the last Thursday of November as a national Day of Thanksgiving. Then after seventy-five years of Presidents following Lincoln's precedent, in 1941, Congress permanently established the fourth Thursday of each November as a national holiday.

Not unique only to the United States, similarly a national holiday giving thanks is celebrated as well in Canada, some of the Caribbean Islands, and Liberia—as a day of expressing thanks for the blessing of the harvest and of the preceding year. Similarly named festival holidays occur in Germany and Japan.

But expressions of thanks, of gratitude, of appreciation and affirmation—go back much farther...likely all the way to the creation of humanity. And dare I say, even back to *infinity*—to the very heart of God. It certainly does not take a national declaration of any kind to turn us loose expressing our thanks—anytime, anywhere, to anyone!

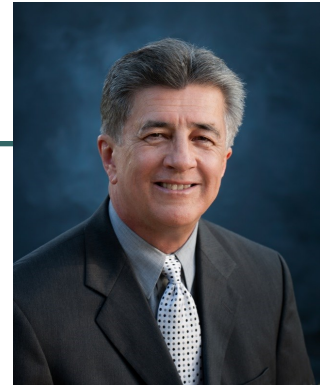
So...on this celebration of *thanksgiving*—DO celebrate The Day festively—and especially taking time to personally thank those with whom you share your lives—and also thanking our Creator God for all of the blessings of life you enjoy—of live, and liberty, and well-being.

But also—don't stop! Let's pledge ourselves to express our own genuine personal gratitude to at least one other human being (and maybe more), at least every single day of the coming year! In person (the very best way) - or by phone—or written—or by digital means. It's all good! How positive that would be—both for the recipient, and also for each of us who express thanks! How affirming—how invigorating—how healthy! And...it's all totally free! It doesn't take much time. We all have energy for it. We all have the skills, talents and abilities to do it! Just imagine a world where words-of-thanks are being offered every single day, everywhere!

Have a glorious Thanksgiving!

*"Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones, and
give thanks to his holy name.:"*
(Psalm 30:4)

David



FESTIVAL FEATURES NEW LOOK FOR 2017



By the time you read this, the 2017 Wild West version of the Fine Arts Festival will be history.

We know the Festival was a success because we had such good cooperation from the congregation and also because we featured another local artists' group, the Prairie Plein Air Artists. And more artists than ever submitted work for display. As we got to press with this story, there are more than 180 works to be hung in the gallery. The decision to hold the event later in the fall enabled us to attract more youth art.

While this year's Festival had a new look, we think it was a welcome change, keeping visitors involved and interested. Our Cowboy Coffee House in the Parlor offered not only Bell Ringers' Caramel Rolls in the morning but also Church Ladies' Apple Crisp in the afternoon. Musical entertainment from various local youth groups filled the church with song all day. And we hope you liked our kids' art cover on the Festival booklet. The contest offered to Sunday School kids for cover art brought many wonderful renditions of their concepts of the Wild West, all of which were featured in the booklet.

Correction: Last month's article stated that we gave \$1,500 in scholarship awards to three youth-oriented organizations, Central Dakota Children's Choir, Theo Art School and Capitol Shakespeare Traveling Troupe. In fact we awarded \$500 to each group for a total of \$1,500. And each of the three groups contributed their talents to the Festival.

Soon we will close the books on this year's Festival, looking forward to another year when our First Presbyterian Church rolls out the carpet to artists once again. Thanks to everyone who helped.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN WRAPPING UP

Thank you to everyone who sent in an Estimate of Giving for 2018. Your estimates will help First Presbyterian Church budget for the coming year. If you have not yet turned in your pledge card, there is still time.

The total amount of pledged dollars has increased over the last few years. Your generosity has been inspirational for our congregation.

Remember, your pledge is just an estimate of what you plan to give in the coming year. You can change it at any time.



ST. ANDREW'S DAY CELEBRATION



We are planning our third annual St. Andrew's Day celebration. The feast day of Saint Andrew, patron saint of Scotland, is a national holiday in Scotland where Scots culture is celebrated with traditional food, music and dance.

Once a year, with a special Sunday worship service, many Presbyterian churches observe St. Andrew's Day as a means of celebrating their Scottish roots. This year we are celebrating November 12th.

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 thing Scottish, including wearing clan plaids, speaking and singing in their native Gaelic tongue and the playing of bagpipes. Although unlawful kirkin' was punishable by death, Scots would 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.

Nowadays members, guest, and visitors are invited to present pieces of their heritage/tartan for blessing during the service. The blessing is open to everyone, whether of Scots heritage or other.

Music will be Celtic in flavor. Our service will include traditional Celtic flute and guitar, Highland bagpipes, Celtic hymns and a hymn in Gaelic.

In keeping with the spirit of the occasion, all are encouraged to wear plaid and bring a fabric of your heritage for the special "Kirkin' of the Tartan" blessing.



CHURCH DECORATING



The Worship and music Committee will be decorating the Sanctuary for the Advent Season on **Saturday, December 2nd at 9:00 a.m.** Volunteers are requested, just show up at the church or a friendly response is appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact Fred Larson at 226-9616. You might be the one to "Light the Christmas Tree!"



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION



THANK YOU!

As Geoff and I prepare for our new baby girl (Due Date: November 15th), I can't help but be thankful for the "family" around us at First Presbyterian Church. We greatly appreciate your prayers, well wishes, and checking in on how we're doing.

A special thanks to all those who are helping during my maternity leave. As I plan to be gone for three months. I am grateful for all those who are going above and beyond to help out in all the different areas needed while I'm gone. We have incredible volunteers, parents, and members of the Christian Education team that are stepping up to assist with anything while I'm gone. This includes our College Interns Olivia Bachmeier, Emily Ehrens, and Mark Jensen—who are doing an incredible job helping out with our youth.

We are so grateful for our dedicated volunteers and incredible CE Committee members. **Please don't hesitate to be a part of the help while I'm gone!** We are always in need of Sunday School leaders, PAC teachers, and PresbyTeen chaperones! Check in with the front office about how you can get involved, or sign up on the Christian Education Board to teach any Sunday morning or Wednesday night!





PRESBYTEENS BADLANDS RETREAT

A great group of PresbyTeen youth spent their Fall break weekend in the Badlands of Medora this past October. Although the weather was not on our side, we had a great time enjoying God's beauty of the Badlands, with lots of fun together spent at Badlands Ministries.

Our youth have incredible spirit and positive attitudes. The weather changed our plans quite a bit, but our group stayed upbeat, and brought lots of fun to the Bible Studies, Team Challenges and games we spent our time enjoying.

First Presbyterian Church is very lucky to have such involved, interested, and awesome youth. We look forward to many more great adventures together—hopefully ones without 40 mph winds!



UPCOMING YOUTH EVENTS:

- ♦ **All Ages Move Day:** The Emoji Movie ~ Sunday, November 5th, 11:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m. All are welcome for a FREE pizza lunch and fun time together watching “The Emoji Movie” in the Movie Room. All ages are welcome! The movie will start after Worship, and we will be done by 1:00 p.m. *We ask families to please fill out our Sunday School registration as a Permission Slip prior to the event.*

- ♦ **Christmas Pageant ~ Sunday, December 10th**

Rehearsals during PAC and PresbyTeens on Wednesday, November 29th and December 6th. Dress rehearsal at 8:00 a.m. on December 10th.

Our 1st-12th graders will share a Christmas Pageant with the Congregation on Sunday, December 10th, during 10:00 a.m. Worship. We will rehearse from 6:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m. Wednesday evenings, with dress rehearsal that Sunday morning at 8:00 a.m. We hope our PAC and PresbyTeen youth can participate. Please let the front office know if your child(ren) cannot attend on December 10th.



Once again our GROW gardening program wants to thank First Presbyterian Church for allowing us to use your facilities for our beginning and end-of-the season activities. Ramstad Hall, along with access to the kitchen is a perfect spot for our GROW family to gather and celebrate our success for the year.

In the years that GROW has been operating, we have grown considerably. We have grown from 1 community garden plot to 4, from 5 gardeners to 27, from 4 mentors to 16. This year we raised approximately 1,550 pounds of produce of which 385 pounds were donated to the Ruth Meiers House.

With your support we are achieving our goal of providing a healthy, social, and inclusive recreational opportunity for adults with developmental disabilities through gardening.



NOVEMBER OUTREACH

First Presbyterian Church will again be collecting canned and non-perishable food items to assist the Bismarck Emergency Food Pantry in their service to our Bismarck-Mandan Community. The need is so great for providing food for the many needy children and adults. The pantry shelves need to be restocked. Please bring your items to the church anytime from November 1st thru November 19th and place them in the donation box located in the Narthex. We can make a difference in the lives of the hungry in our community.

Thank You!

Any Non-Perishable Food

Canned Fruit
Canned Fruit Juice
Raisins
Oatmeal & Cereal
Graham Crackers
Other Snack Crackers
Peanut Butter
Canned Tuna/Salmon
Canned Meats
Beans/Lentils
Chili
Macaroni & Cheese
Ketchup
Dry Cereal
Vegetables
Pork & Beans/Other Beans
Spaghetti Sauce
Potatoes
Rice/Rice-a-Roni
Dry Pasta
Soup

Hamburger Helper
Sugar
Tea/Coffee
Pancake Mix & Syrup
Toilet Paper
Toothpaste
Diapers
Baby Wipes
Razors



PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT...



The Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) was formed by congregational vote on September 10th, 2017. The PNC is comprised of Session members, Matt Engel, Ella Gutzke (Vice Chair), Dale Hoerauf, Bill Jensen, Diann Johnson, John Richter, and Jim Skaret (Chair). Members at large are: Gladys Cairns, Mallory Henriksen, Allen Hoberg, Dave Nix and Bob Tonolli. The PNC has organized into 4 sub-committees similar to the way the former Search Committee was organized with Communications, Interview and Negotiations, Technical Data, and Hosting Sub-committees. The PNC meets every Monday evening at 6:30 p.m. to conduct business that to date has included the review and evaluation of candidates Personal Information Forms (PIF's) and preparations for the interview of prospective candidates. To date (thru 10/23) we have reviewed and evaluated 73 PIF's. We have begun the interview process for five (5) of those candidates. Two (2) interviews were conducted on 10/23 and the others are being arranged for the week of 10/30. The interviews are conducted by Skype. We are hopeful that after completing these 5 interviews we will be able to begin a greater dialogue with at least one of those candidates, check references and perform background checks, and make arrangements to bring at least one of them to Bismarck to get better acquainted and to preach at a neutral pulpit.

The transition from a Search Committee to a Pastor Nominating Committee went smoothly and has exposed the committee to many more prospective candidates as a Pastor Nominating Committee that were available as a Search Committee. We are confident the Holy Spirit is moving us in the right direction and we are hopeful we will be able to identify the person that will best fill our needs in the near future. We thank all for their continued prayers and support.

CHRISTMAS BELLS...

It's not too early to "save the date" on your calendar for a concert welcoming Advent and Christmas! Westminster Chimes will be joining other area musicians for a non-denominational Christmas Concert taking place on Saturday, December 2nd from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Bismarck LDS Chapel at 1500 County West Road. The program will be open to the public with no admission charge. Come and begin your Christmas Season with music!



FUN AT THE CCC ~ INSIDE AND OUT!



Outdoor Classroom

We have ordered and received our first round of new equipment for the outdoor classroom! The shed, wheelbarrows, blocks and water table are all here! The children have already been enjoying the wheelbarrows and blocks. The water table will have to wait for spring—BURRRR!!!!



WHAT SAYS “FALL WEATHER” BETTER THAN COZY PAJAMAS?

On October 26th, the CCC celebrated their first annual Pajama Day!

The kids and staff wore their favorite PJs and had some fun—Miss Sparkles at the library was VERY impressed by the 4 & 5 year olds sleepwear in the blistery weather!





NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee has completed the task for this years selection of candidates for the Elder positions, Deacon positions and Child Care Board position.

The committee put many hours into contacting candidates and filling the vacancies before the deadline for the Congregational Meeting.

Carole Watrel, Co-Chair, and I would like to thank all the members for all the hard work and time they dedicated to complete our task. We also want to thank all of you who agreed to fill one of the positions that needed to be filled and thank Charee for all the extra administrative preparation she completed for us for our meetings to be productive.

Ella Gutzke, Co-Chair



NEW FURNITURE IN THE PARLOR!

Over the past several months, your Parlor Furniture Committee has been working with Conlin's Furniture in creating a new comfortable, contemporary, and colorful look in the Church Parlor. We took special care in anticipating future needs of the Parlor while choosing fabrics and furniture styles and we sincerely hope you like the results and will enjoy the Parlor even more for many years to come!



A big Thank You to the guys who helped with the heavy lifting of the "old" furniture to its new home in the Church Youth Room...Jerry Lindblom, Larry Hoge, Don Cross, David Massey, Dennis Rosenkranz, Clyde Johnson, John Richter, Matt Engel, and Les Hornbacher.

The Furniture Committee members include: Ann Lynch, Nanc Skaret, Donna Richter, Betty Aide and Sue Sorlie.



ADMINISTRATIVE AND PERSONNEL

The Administrative and Personnel Committee approved Friday, December 22nd and the afternoon of Friday, December 29th as designated holiday dates. The church office will be closed on those dates. The FPC Employee Handbook states when a holiday falls on a weekend, Admin. & Personnel will determine alternative holiday dates for church staff.



NURSES NOTES...



Greetings to you all!

November reminds all of us of giving thanks. I give thanks to First Presbyterian Church, Pastor David and the pastoral staff as well as the congregation for their support and guidance in the Nurse Ministry opportunity. I have met some extra-special people in this new journey. This has been such an inspiring adventure.

I also want to thank you all for your prayers and support during my medical emergency. I do believe your prayers and support have provided the healing needed to my recovery. Thank You!

November has arrived and soon we will be celebrating our last month of the year. How fast time flies. Happy Thanksgiving Everyone!!

Two of our national recognized diseases in November are Diabetes and Alzheimer's. Therefore I thought I would share some facts for each of these.

Diabetes:

Criteria for testing for Diabetes or Pre-Diabetes

1. Testing should be considered in all adults who are overweight with a Body Mass Index (BMI) of 25 or more or 23 in Asian Americans and have additional risk factors:
 - * Physical inactivity
 - * First-degree relative with diabetes
 - * High-risk race/ethnicity (e.g., African American, Latino, Native American, Asian American, Pacific Islander)
 - * Women who delivered a baby weighing > 9lbs or were diagnosed with Gestational Diabetes Mellitus
 - * Hypertension (>140/90 mmHg or on therapy for hypertension)
 - * HDL cholesterol level <35 mg/dL and/or a triglyceride level >250 mg/dL
 - * Women with polycystic ovary syndrome (this is an imbalance of a woman's hormonal levels causing irregular menstrual cycles, difficulty conceiving, ovarian cysts or enlarged ovaries)
 - * A1C of greater than or equal to 5.7%, Impaired Glucose Tolerance, or Impaired Fasting Glucose on previous testing.
 - * Other clinical conditions associated with insulin resistance e.g., severe obesity, acanthosis nigricans (these are dark patches of skin with thick velvety textures)
 - * History of Cardiovascular Disease
- 2) Testing is recommended for those over the age of 45, particularly those who are overweight or obese.
- 3) If results are normal, testing should be repeated at a minimum of 3-year intervals, with consideration of more frequent testing depending on initial results (e.g., those with pre-diabetes should be tested yearly) and risk status.



Alzheimer's:

What should I do if I notice changes in my loved one's symptoms?

Noticing a change in your love one's symptoms may mean their Alzheimer's has progressed. It's important to make an appointment with the doctor as soon as possible. That way, the doctor can make an informed decision about whether it's time to adjust your loved one's treatment for moderate Alzheimer's disease.

Some examples of moderate stage Alzheimer's symptoms:

- * Difficulty managing personal finances (paying bills)
- * Difficulty with household tasks (laundry, making meals)
- * Problems with personal care (bathing, grooming, toileting)
- * Wandering or getting lost
- * Changes in sleep patterns
- * Feeling moody, withdrawn, or detached
- * Forgetfulness about one's own personal history
- * Being unable to recall their own address or phone number
- * Needing help choosing proper clothing for the season
- * Continuous repeating stories

Examples of severe stage Alzheimer's symptoms:

- * May not recognize oneself or family
- * May not communicate
- * Lack of control of bowel or bladder
- * Groaning, moaning, or grunting
- * Needing help with all activities of daily living



There will be a Blood Pressure
Clinic in the Parish Nurse
office on

Sunday, November 5th

9:00 a.m.—10:00 a.m.

&

11:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

CAREGIVER SUNDAY



Presbytery of the Northern Plains: by Joanie Friend, Faith Community Nurse at Bradley Hills Presbyterian Church in Bethesda, Maryland

As our society continues to age, we hear more and more about the challenges of dementia. There are now about five million people living with Alzheimer's disease in the United States, and that number will grow. Alzheimer's is one of the most feared medical conditions, and there is still no cure. What starts as forgetfulness becomes increasing disability, disconnection, dependence and death.

Although we recognize the distress that Alzheimer's and other dementias can cause, we sometimes forget the family members, friends, and fellow church members who help carry the burdens of these diseases. Caregivers are far too weary, overwhelmed, and burdened by the physical, emotional, and spiritual demands of providing care to those who are forgetful and confused. Many also feel that no one truly understands the challenges they face. People with dementia are loved by God, and it is incumbent upon the church community to support both the individual and the caregivers.

Here are ways that churches can help:

- * Be positive about what people with dementia can do rather than what they cannot do.
- * Support people with dementia in making choices. Give them time to choose between coffee and tea at fellowship time, for example.
- * Listen to what people with dementia are saying. Listen attentively so they feel respected.
- * Pay attention to body language. Sometimes you can read what people are saying in their faces or with gestures.
- * Avoid correcting what people with dementia say. People with dementia often say things that are not accurate. Try to redirect or distract.
- * Assume people with dementia know what you are saying. Talking about or "over" a person can be hurtful.



GIVING TUESDAY



Presbytery of the Northern Plains: by Pat Cole, Communication Specialist, Presbyterian Mission Agency

Black Friday. Cyber Monday.

#GIVINGTUESDAY™

November 28, 2017

Before the sun set on Thanksgiving Day, stores across our country opened their doors to shoppers seeking an early start on Black Friday specials. This “busiest shopping day of the year” is etched deeply into our culture and our economy. In the past decade, another retail phenomenon has developed in the days following Thanksgiving. The technological revolution and savvy marketers have given us Cyber Monday, which is filled with promotions aimed at online shoppers.

On the heels of these two commercial events, a third post-Thanksgiving tradition has emerged, and it is claiming the attention of more and more people, including Presbyterians. Giving Tuesday exists for one purpose: to celebrate and encourage giving.

The event, which is in its sixth year, was created by the 92nd Street Y, a cultural and community center in New York City, in partnership with the United Nations Foundation. It is billed as “a global day of giving fueled by the power of social media and collaboration.”

By the time Giving Tuesday arrives, most of the Thanksgiving dinner leftovers have been eaten or thrown away, and the season’s hymns of gratitude have been set aside for another year. However, Giving Tuesday’s emphasis on generosity offers Christians an opportunity to hit the reset button and rediscover the joy of giving thanks.

On Giving Tuesday, we can express our thanks living through generous giving. Today, as you ponder the many wonderful possibilities for your giving, I hope you will consider supporting the work of your church. At the national level, you can give to the ministries of Presbyterian Mission through its Giving Tuesday page and to the work of other Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) agencies through the Presbyterian Foundation.

Poet Maya Angelou reminds us that gratitude should be the underpinning of our spiritual lives and that our communion with the Holy One should lead us to strive for a better world. In *Celebrations: Rituals of Peace and Prayer*, she writes: “Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer. And let faith be the bridge you build to overcome evil and welcome good.”

This year’s Giving Tuesday will be a wonderful opportunity to channel your generosity toward the elimination of suffering and the promotion of good. Your giving today will be a testament to your thanks living.



#GIVINGTUESDAY™



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

SESSION HIGHLIGHTS OCTOBER 24TH, 2017

CLERK'S REPORT

Minutes from September 27th Session meeting and October 22nd Congregational meeting were approved.

The death of Ruth Fry on October 12th was reported; membership is 501. Pat and Steve Burkle (new members this spring) have moved to Pensacola, FL.

Session approved the resignation of Carolyn Barks as Deacon. Her unexpired term will be filled by Donna Arneson.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Total Income YTD Actual	\$333,980	Budget	\$348,050
Total Expense YTD Actual	\$355,370	Budget	\$368,964
Net Income	- \$ 21,389	Budget	- \$ 20,914
Unrestricted General Fund	\$156,475		

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor Reiter and the Administrative and Personnel Committee are discussing his retirement date, tentatively February 1st, 2018.

Session will meet November 18th to discuss "What's Next?" topics regarding current and future issues in the life of the church.

The December Session meeting will be December 19th. Ordination/Installation of new church officers will be January 7th, 2018 and the Annual Congregation/Corporation Meeting will be January 28th, 2018.

Pastor Reiter will be in MN October 30th—November 3rd and November 20th—24th.

COMMITTEE REPORTS (from meeting and committee minutes)

Outreach: Gladys Cairns reported on a project called Higher Power Lunch, based on a similar program in Fargo. Session approved the committee's request to make an application for \$1,500 grant from Presbytery Women. This would be used to help with the planning and purchase of food. Business leaders would be invited to attend a once-a-month lunch hosted by FPC, possibly beginning in Spring 2018.

Session approved the committee's request to make application for a grant to help sponsor an Adult Mission Trip, working with Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.

Administrative and Personnel: The church office will be closed on December 22nd, and at noon on December 29th.

Business and Finance: Budgeted transfers into the General Fund were made from the Orr Family Fund and Merritt Reserve Fund.



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

Christian Education: Donations received for the church plates will be divided between CE and the Fine Arts Festival Committee. Nine youth participated in the Badlands Retreat. CE members have PAC children as prayer partners for this school year.

Property and Equipment: The committee is checking on caulking, repairs to brick plantar and sign.

Stewardship: Celebration Sunday is October 29th with lunch following the service.

Worship and Music: There is a potential candidate for organist/pianist that will be interviewed. Volunteers are needed to help decorate for Advent on December 2nd at 9:00 a.m.

Child Care Center Board: Changes to the CCC Operations Manual were approved by the Board and also approved by Session.

Board of Deacons: Parish Nurse, Wanona Goetz, has visited many members. Four hearing devices are programmed and available.

Pastor Nominating Committee: Interviews with potential candidates are scheduled.

OTHER BUSINESS

Presbytery Meeting: Jim Skaret reported on the meeting held at Hallock, MN October 6-7. Changes to the bylaws/policies state that delegates to Presbytery for a church of 300 or more members would be three instead of two commissioners. Any ordained Elder is eligible to attend, even if he/she is not currently on Session. Presbytery approved Jan Holzclaw of Minot to move to a Candidate for Ministry (Princeton Seminary) and approved Rev. Robert Blake for ordination as Pastor of FPC Moorhead. A Closing Commission was formed for the Minot FPC. With a deficit budget, a Presbytery Task Force will consider ways to reduce costs. Motion by Presbyterians for Earth Care to endorse the Presbytery of the Hudson River Overture to the 223rd General Assembly (2018) on directing the Board of Pensions and Presbyterian Church USA Foundation to divest from fossil fuel and actively invest in securities that focus on renewable energy was defeated on a close vote.

Alice Nix, Clerk of Session





~ Bert & Ashlee Asselin, along with Jade , gladly announce the birth of Brynn Lea Asselin on September 27th, 2017!



~ Our deepest sympathies to the family and friends for the loss of their loved ones:

Diana Cofell

This Month's Anniversaries & Birthdays

BIRTHDAYS

NOVEMBER

Betty Sprynczynatyk	2nd
David Massey	3rd
Vern Johnson	4th
Valerie Sturlaugson	6th
Dan Halvorson	11th
Parker Ronningen	11th
Janet Gilchrist	12th
Corby Svihovec	13th
Emily Johnson	15th
Emily Ehrens	16th
McKinley Stokka	17th
Lynne Bigwood	17th
Geraldine Morrison	20th
Ann Lynch	20th
Doug Bradford	21st
Shari Orser	25th
Jeff Schafer	26th
Jon Thomson	30th
Brady Wohl	30th

Anniversaries

Jodi & John Bjornson	Nov. 2nd
Kim & Gail Christianson	Nov. 3rd
Darren & Denise Gratz	Nov. 18th
Jerry & Priscilla Wilson	Nov. 23rd

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*All birthdays and anniversaries are taken from membership forms filled out by the congregation. If we made a mistake, or missed you or a loved one, we apologize and ask that you please let us know so we can update our system. If you do not want your birthday listed in a bulletin or newsletter, please let us know that as well. Thank you!*





| Sun                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Mon                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Tue                                                                                                                                        | Wed                                                                                                                                                                | Thu                                                                                                                         | Fri                                 | Sat                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                            | <b>1</b><br><b>5:45pm</b> PAC/<br>PresbyTeens<br><b>6:30pm</b> Westminster<br>Chimes<br><b>7:30pm</b> Choir                                                        | <b>2</b><br><b>12:00pm</b><br>Stewardship Comm.<br><b>6:00pm</b><br>Membership Comm.<br><b>6:00pm</b> Outreach<br>Committee | <b>3</b>                            | <b>4</b><br><b>8:30am</b> Circle<br><b>9:00am</b> Yoga                                  |
| <b>5</b><br><b>10:00am</b> Worship<br><b>10:30am</b> Sunday<br>School<br><b>11:00am</b> Called Special<br>Session Meeting (201)<br><b>11:00am</b> All Ages<br>Movie Day (Movie Rm)<br><b>*Blood Pressure Clinic*</b> | <b>6</b><br><b>6:30pm</b> PNC<br>Meeting<br><b>7:00pm</b> Boy Scouts                                                                                                                                   | <b>7</b><br><b>5:15pm-7:00pm</b><br>Suzuki Music<br><b>5:30pm</b> Yoga<br><b>7:00pm</b> Christian<br>Ed. Committee                         | <b>8</b><br><b>12:00pm</b> Munch &<br>Mingle @ Ramkota<br>Hotel<br><b>5:45pm</b> PAC/<br>PresbyTeens<br><b>6:30pm</b> Westminster<br>Chimes<br><b>7:30pm</b> Choir | <b>9</b>                                                                                                                    | <b>10</b>                           | <b>11</b><br><b>9:00am</b> Yoga                                                         |
| <b>12</b><br><b>10:00am</b> Worship ~ St.<br>Andrews Celebration<br><b>10:30am</b> Sunday<br>School                                                                                                                  | <b>13</b><br><b>5:00pm</b> Admin &<br>Personnel Comm.<br><b>5:30pm</b> Worship &<br>Music Comm.<br><b>5:15pm -7:00pm</b><br>Suzuki Music<br><b>6:30pm</b> PNC<br>Committee<br><b>7:00pm</b> Boy Scouts | <b>14</b><br><b>12:00pm</b> Business<br>& Finance<br><b>5:15pm-7:00pm</b><br>Suzuki Music<br><b>5:30pm</b> Yoga<br><b>5:30pm</b> CCC Board | <b>15</b><br><b>5:45pm</b> PAC/<br>PresbyTeens<br><b>6:30pm</b> Westminster<br>Chimes<br><b>7:30pm</b> Choir                                                       | <b>16</b><br><b>7:00pm</b> Deacons                                                                                          | <b>17</b>                           | <b>18</b><br><b>9:00am</b> Yoga<br><b>9:00am</b> Special<br>Session Meeting<br>(Parlor) |
| <b>19</b><br><b>10:00am</b> Worship<br><b>10:30am</b> Sunday<br>School                                                                                                                                               | <b>20</b><br><b>5:15pm-7:00pm</b><br>Suzuki Music<br><b>6:30pm</b> PNC<br>Committee<br><b>7:00pm</b> Boy Scouts                                                                                        | <b>21</b><br><b>5:15pm-7:15pm</b><br>Suzuki Music<br><b>5:30pm</b> Yoga<br><b>7:00pm</b> Bridge                                            | <b>22</b><br><b>9:00am-11:00am</b><br>Blood Pressure Clinic                                                                                                        | <b>23</b><br><b>*Office Closed*</b>                                                                                         | <b>24</b><br><b>*Office Closed*</b> | <b>25</b>                                                                               |
| <b>26</b><br><b>10:00am</b> Worship<br><b>*No Sunday School*</b>                                                                                                                                                     | <b>27</b><br><b>5:15pm-7:00pm</b><br>Suzuki Music<br><b>6:30pm</b> PNC<br>Committee<br><b>7:00pm</b> Boy Scouts                                                                                        | <b>28</b><br><b>5:15pm-7:15pm</b><br>Suzuki Music<br><b>5:30pm</b> Yoga<br><b>7:00pm</b> Session                                           | <b>29</b><br><b>5:45pm</b> PAC/<br>PresbyTeens ~ Pageant<br>Rehearsal<br><b>6:30pm</b> Westminster<br>Chimes<br><b>7:30pm</b> Choir                                | <b>30</b>                                                                                                                   |                                     |                                                                                         |



# ***SELF DEFENSE PRESENTATION***

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There is an opportunity for a Self-Defense presentation for Senior Citizens by Erik Powell from Bismarck ATA Martial Arts School. He is willing to come to First Presbyterian Church to teach a class for Self-Defense for Senior Citizens and other age groups. For those who are interested, could you please fill out the questions below. We need to know if there would be interest in this. Return this form to Charee. Thank You!

**Please Circle your answer, cut on the dotted line and return to church office:**

My age is:      21-40 years                      40-55 years                      55-90 years

I would definitely attend the class:                      Yes                      No

Best time to attend class:                      Morning                      Afternoon                      Evening

I would be interested in attending a Tuesday at 12:00 Noon Class:                      Yes                      No

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## **SELF DEFENSE FOR SENIORS RECOMMENDATIONS**

### **General Tips to Remember:**

- \* Don't overload your arms with packages. Use a luggage cart, or make another trip.
- \* Park and walk in well-lit areas.
- \* Before leaving your car or a shop, observe your surroundings closely, especially if the area is unfamiliar, so you know where to go for safety.
- \* Always have your keys in hand, one finger looped through a key ring, when walking to the car or door.
- \* Walk with a purpose. Don't look at the ground; look around you.
- \* Have a police whistle and a flashlight on your key chain.
- \* Carry as little cash and credit cards as possible. Hold only what you're prepared to lose.
- \* Don't slip a purse strap around your neck—the attacker could use the strap to harm you.
- \* The majority of **cell phones for seniors** and some medical alarms have 911 connections—hit that at the first sign of trouble.
- \* Visit the bank during the day, instead of stopping by ATM's at night. If you must visit an ATM, try a well-lit, drive-thru location.
- \* Don't Open your door to a stranger. Look out a window or keyhole first, and, if necessary, speak through the door.
- \* Women should put their jacket on over their purse so that the handbag is less exposed.
- \* Slip cash and credit cards in a travel wallet, waist pack, or pocket.
- \* Carry keys in a pocket, not in the purse.





### **Sunday Worship Schedule**

Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School: 10:30 a.m.

### **Church Office Hours**

Monday—Friday

8:00 AM—5:00 PM

(Closed over Noon Hour on Friday ~ 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m.)

### **Church Staff**

|                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Pastor                     | Rev. Dr. David Reiter |
| Administrative Assistant   | Charee Linton         |
| Finance                    | Vickie Haas           |
| Christian Ed. Director     | Ashley Greenwood      |
| Parish Nurse               | Wanona Goetz          |
| Organist                   | Jan Candee            |
| Choir Director             | Debi Rogers           |
| Handbell Ensemble Director | Lael Hoerauf          |
| Maintenance Manager        | Les Hornbacher        |
| Child Care Director        | Shawn Stettner        |
| Ass. Child Care Director   | Vanessa Hein          |
| Membership Services        | Judy Lentz            |
| Membership Services        | Shelli Peterson       |

### **FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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