

WELCOME TO
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF BISMARCK, ND



September 7, 2025

10:00a.m. Service

Our Mission

We are a community called to love God through worship and prayer, receiving and serving our neighbors with the compassion of Christ, open to new beginnings and the spiritual growth of children, youth and adults.

WE WELCOME OUR GUESTS THIS MORNING AND
INVITE YOU TO MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME!



PLEASE FEEL FREE TO JOIN US FOR
COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWING WORSHIP.



BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC

TODAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH

9:00AM - 10:00AM AND 11:00AM - 12:00PM

**PLEASE FILL OUT YOUR “PINK PRAYER REQUEST CARDS”
AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, THE USHERS WILL COLLECT THEM DURING
THE OPENING HYMN. THANK YOU!**

ATTENDANCE BOOKS

You will find an Attendance Pad at the end of each pew.
Please fill it out and leave it in pew for the church office to collect.
(please include any updated address information) Thank you to
everyone for helping us with collecting attendance and statistics
we submit to the Presbytery.

“13th Sunday after Pentecost” 10:00am

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*(*Asterisks indicate that all who are able are requested to stand,
bold texts are to be read in unison)*

Prelude

“Seek Ye First”

Douglas Wagner

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

“Drawn to You”

Sarah Hart

***Call to Worship (responsively)**

One: We gather today as the people of God, as a community of Christ’s followers.

Many: We gather to share Word and sacrament, to discern the ways of faithful service.

One: Where in the world shall we serve our God?

Many: At home and school and business place – in this community and throughout every land.

One: How in the world shall we serve our God?

Many: By working toward justice where there is oppression, by offering comfort where there is pain, by sharing love where there is hatred.

One: Why in the world shall we serve our God?

Many: Because the Spirit beckons us, because Jesus calls us to enact our faith. Let us now worship the one who calls us!

Gathering in God’s Name

***Opening Hymn**

“We Come as Guests Invited”

PH #517

Choral Call to Confession

“Come and Fill Our Hearts”

lyrics:

Jacques Berthier

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

You alone, O Lord, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, Alleluia!

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Our hearts are hard, O God –

Soften them with your love.

Our hands are clenched, O God –



Open them with your grace.

Our feet are planted too firmly, O God –

Invite us to dance with you.

Our lives are not our own, we know –

Let us live and move and have our being in you, O God. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

***Gloria Patri and Passing of the Peace of Christ**

PH #579

Young Disciples Message

***Prayer of Gratitude for the Grace of Giving**

***Doxology and Dedication of Gifts**

PH #592

Proclamation of the Word of God

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Reading

Matthew 14:13-21

Anthem

“Fill-A Me Up!”

Pepper Choplin

soloists: Lael Hoerauf, Allen Hoberg

Sermon

“If You Feed Them, They Will Come”

Communion Hymn “Bread of Life from Heaven”

see attached

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

Saying what we believe with the Apostles Creed

PH #14

Invitation to the Table

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements

Sharing the Feast Together

Prayer after Communion



Responding to God’s Word

***Closing Hymn**

“I Come with Joy”

PH #507

Sending Forth in God’s Name

Benediction and Blessing

Benediction Response

“Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises”

South African/Grindal

Postlude

“Make a Joyful Noise”

arr. Mary McDonald

Communion Hymn:

Bread of Life from Heaven

Refrain C G Am Am7 F G7 C

Bread of life from heav-en, your blood and bod - y giv - en, we

F G7 C Am F G7 C Last time

eat this bread and drink this cup un - til you come a - gain.

G G7 C F

1 Break now the bread of Christ's sac - ri - fice; giv - ing thanks,
2 Seek not the food that will pass a - way; set your hearts
3 Love as the One who, in love for you, gave him - self
4 Dwell in the One who now dwells in you; make your home
5 Drink of this cup and de - clare his death; eat this bread

G C Bdim7 E7

hun - gry ones, gath - er round. Eat, all of you, and be
on the food that en - dures. Come, learn the true and the
for the life of the world. Come to the One who is
in the life - giv - ing Word. Know on - ly Christ, ho - ly
and be - lieve Eas - ter morn; trust his re - turn and, with

Am Am7 D D7 Gsus G7 to Refrain

sat - is - fied; in Christ's pres - ence the loaves will a - bound.
liv - ing way, that the full - ness of life may be yours.
food for you, that your hun - ger and thirst be no more.
One of God, and be - lieve in the truth you have heard.
ev - ery breath, praise the One in whom you are re - born.

This Lord's Supper hymn began with the music of the refrain, an Argentine melody for the *Sanctus*. Then the refrain text was written to fit that music, followed by stanzas based on themes from John 6. Finally, a melody for the stanzas was composed in the style of the refrain.

First Scripture Reading

Matthew 14:13-21

¹³ When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴ When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

¹⁵ As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a remote place, and it's already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food."

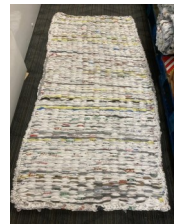
¹⁶ Jesus replied, "They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat."

¹⁷ "We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish," they answered.

¹⁸ "Bring them here to me," he said. ¹⁹ And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. ²⁰ They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. ²¹ The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Collecting plastic grocery bags for a good cause!

Our Hospitality Committee is collecting used plastic grocery bags for a project to make mats to give to homeless people. The bags must NOT have any holes. The committee is working with a woman who creates the mats, like the one pictured here, by hand-weaving the plastic bags. It takes about 500 bags to make one mat. The committee decided to test whether the congregation would support this effort, hoping this could be a long-term outreach (and environmentally friendly) project for our congregation. The mats will be given to groups who work with the homeless in our area! THANK YOU



September Donation Opportunity

Since 2006, the Backpacks for Kids program has provided kid-friendly packs of food to children identified as homeless. These children may be living in overcrowded housing, staying with family or friends, staying in hotels/shelters, or sleeping in vehicles. While the school district provides breakfast and lunch during the week, the backpacks are an attempt to provide food over the weekends.

During September our congregation has the opportunity to help fill these backpacks. All donations are delivered to the Community Action agency which packs and distributes the bags to over 1300 students in need every other week. (United Way provides backpacks on the alternate weeks.) Please consider donating kid-friendly items such as:

Cereal	Pudding
Granola and yogurt bars	Canned dinners
Fruit cups	Peanut butter
Applesauce	Jelly



Announcing One Call Now!!!

One Call Now is a mass calling system for churches which gives us the ability to notify members of urgent announcements and church closings via a phone call.

Be on the lookout for an email with the updated Church Directory. The phone numbers listed in the directory will be entered into One Call Now. Please review your information and let us know if you have any changes.

If your phone number is not in the directory and you want to receive urgent updates or church closing information, call the Church Office. Your phone number can be added to One Call Now without being published in the Church Directory.

Thank you, Maureen

call church office 223-6091 or

email: firstpresbyterian@fpcbismarck.com

Hope you're having a marvelous summer. This note announces that it's time to join our voices together in song!

At First Presbyterian we're blessed with marvelous musicians and would love for you to join us, we rehearse Wednesday nights from 7:30-8:30 p. m. and prepare at least 4 weeks ahead, so don't worry if you can't attend every rehearsal. I'm eager for your comments and ideas you have.

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



Do you enjoy music? Do you enjoy genuine camaraderie? Do you enjoy wearing the same top as 10 or 12 other people? Then handbell ringing is for you. Westminster Chimes rehearses at 6:30pm on Wednesday evenings. Contact Lael at 527-1953 to learn more about our handbell music ministry with the option of scheduling a private introduction to ringing!

Lael Hoerauf



Calendar

- Mon., Sept., 8 - **5:30pm** Worship & Music
 7:00pm Christian Ed
 6:30pm Scouts
- Tue., Sept., 9 - **11am Strength & Balance Class**– resumes
 5:30pm AA meeting (room #201)
 5:30pm CCC Board
 6:30pm Lay Pastors
- Wed., Sept., 10 - **5:45pm PAC/Teens**– resumes
 6:30pm Westminster Chimes
 7:30pm Chancel Choir
- Thu., Sept., 11 - **11am** Strength & Balance Class
 NO Yoga
 6:00pm Hospitality
- Fri., Sept., 12 - *No Activities Scheduled*
- Sat., Sept., 13 - *No Activities Scheduled*
- Sun., Sept., 14 - **10:00am** Worship
 14th Sunday after Pentecost
 Back to School Sunday - “Blessing of the Backpacks”

Worship Participants:

Rev. Dr. Leanne Simmons, Pastor
Debi Rogers, Chancel Choir dir.
Gail Snustad, Keyboards
Mark Jensen, Youth Ministry dir.
Lynne Bigwood, Lay Reader
Josh Stokka, Audio/Visual Specialist
Lori & Rick Lee, Anita Fru, Don Bigwood,
and Vic Sonneman, ~ Ushers

Saturday, September 6th - 1:00-3:00pm

“Blessing of the Pets” (service 1:00pm)

(any pets welcome-even teddy bears)

They will be bringing adoptable animals to visit!

Their list of needs includes the following:

bleach, pee pads, kitty litter, cat/kitten food, litter boxes, puppy/dog food, dog treats and toys. **We will be accepting donations for Furry Friends Rockin’**



Rescue - Please place your items on the donation table in the Narthex. Thanks for your generosity!



Blessing of
the Animals

REMINDER:

PAC/Presbyterians will begin **September 10th**

Sunday School will begin **September 14th**

“Blessing of the Backpacks”

3rd graders receive Bibles **September 21st**

Staff Appreciation Sunday **September 28th**

**You can view our church's worship services
on public access television, Sundays at noon!**

Midco channel #12 or #612 (Community Access TV)

SAVE THE DATE

The Banquet

Thursday, October 9, 2025 4:00pm

The Dream Center



Potluck at Papa's Pumpkin Patch

Saturday, October 11th

12:30pm-2:30pm



Please bring a dish to share - sign-up sheet is on the volunteer bulletin board!

FPC will pay your admission at the front gate!

LAY READERS NEEDED:



Please sign up to be a Lay Reader on the bulletin board.

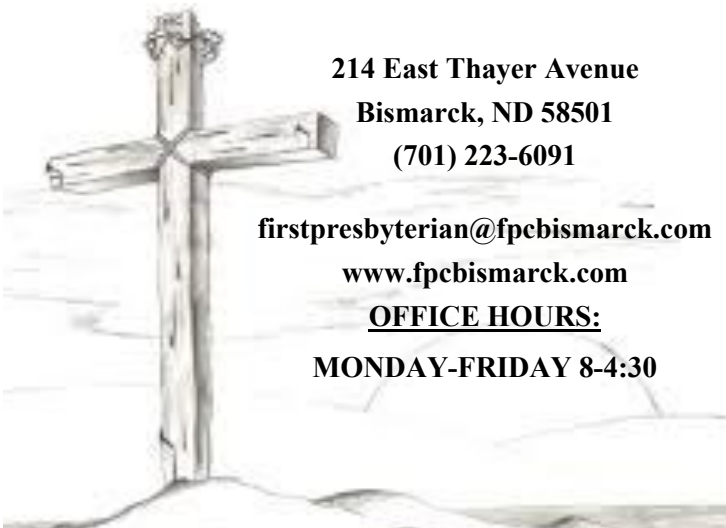
We are so grateful for all the blessings God has given us!

We no longer pass the offering plates, our offering baskets are next to the exits of the Sanctuary. If you would like to give a donation to the ministry of this church you can also go to our website: fpcbismarck.com and click on the DONATE button. Thank you!



STAFF

Rev. Dr. Leanne Simmons, Pastor
Maureen Chrest, Administrative Assistant
Carol Thompson, Financial Assistant
Carmen Bryhn, Parish Nurse
Erik Hein Sr., Maintenance
Arvy Smith, Pianist/Organist
Gail Snustad, Pianist/Organist
Debi Rogers, Chancel Choir Director
Lael Hoerauf, Westminster Chimes Director
Josh Stokka, Audio/Visual Specialist
Judy Lentz, Membership Services Coordinator
Mary Jones, and Laci Rauser, Nursery
Mark Jensen, Youth Ministry Director
Erik Hein Jr., Sunday Security
Ruth Jensen & Connor Svihovec, C.E. Interns



**214 East Thayer Avenue
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**firstpresbyterian@fpcbismarck.com
www.fpcbismarck.com**

OFFICE HOURS:

MONDAY-FRIDAY 8-4:30