

WELCOME TO
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OF BISMARCK, ND



April 12, 2026
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.

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.

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

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Merciful God, in our situations, we confess that we do not always turn toward You. We cling to anger, withdraw from others, and let sorrow harden into bitterness. We ignore Your invitations to trust, to hope, and to rest in Your care. Forgive our wounded hearts and wandering ways. Heal us with Your compassion and lead us toward the wholeness only You can give. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Suzy

Hear the good news: God's mercy meets us before we ask and holds us when we fall. In Jesus Christ, grace overcomes every sin and restores every weary heart. Trust this promise—your sins are forgiven, your life is made new, and you are freed to walk in the way of Christ's peace. Thanks be to God. Amen

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

Young Disciples Message

Mark Jensen

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

Generous God, you pour out blessings beyond measure and invite us to share in your work of love. Receive these gifts as signs of our gratitude and trust. Use them to strengthen your church, uplift the weary, and shine Christ's light in our community. Shape our hearts to give with joy and to serve with compassion, for the sake of your people. Amen

***Doxology and Dedication of Gifts**

We Are an Offering (Song by: Larry Gatlin, Chris Christian)

We lift our voices, We lift our hands

We lift our lives up to You, We are an offering

Lord use our voices, Lord use our hands

Lord use our lives they are Yours

We are an offering

CHORUS:

All that we have, All that we are, All that we hope to be

We give to You, We give to You, We Give to You (repeat)

Proclamation of the Word of God

Prayer of Illumination

Donna

Holy God, You know the sorrows we carry that have no graves—the hopes that faded, the paths that closed, the versions of life we thought we'd be living by now. As we open Your Word, shine light into these shadowed places. Speak truth that steadies us, mercy that softens us, and wisdom that helps us release what no longer gives life. By Your Spirit, teach us to trust the grace that meets us not only in death, but in every ending that asks us to begin again. Amen.

First Scripture Reading *Isaiah 43:4-7; 16-19(NIV)*

Donna

4 Since you are precious and honored in my sight,
and because I love you, I will give people in exchange for you,
nations in exchange for your life.

5 Do not be afraid, for I am with you; I will bring your
children from the east and gather you from the west.

6 I will say to the north, 'Give them up!'
and to the south, 'Do not hold them back!'

Bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the ends of
the earth—

7 everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for
my glory, whom I formed and made.”

16 This is what the Lord says— he who made a way through the
sea, a path through the mighty waters, 17 who drew out the
chariots and horses, the army and reinforcements together, and
they lay there, never to rise again, extinguished, snuffed out like
a wick: 18 “Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.

19 See, I am doing a new thing!

Anthem

“I Will Give Thanks”

Joseph M. Martin

Second Scripture Reading *Philippians 3:7-14*

Suzy

7 I once thought these things were valuable, but now I
consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. 8 Yes,
everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value
of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded
everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain
Christ 9 and become one with him. I no longer count on —————>

my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God’s way of making us right with himself depends on faith. 10 I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, 11 so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead!

Pressing toward the Goal

12 I don’t mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. 13 No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.

Sermon “When the Loss Isn’t a Funeral—Grieving What Didn’t Die”

***Confession of Our Faith (unison)**

We believe in the Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We trust God as Creator, Christ as Redeemer, and the Spirit as our Guide. We affirm Scripture as our foundation, grace as our hope, and the Church as Christ’s body. We praise God for our salvation; we commit to faithful discipleship.

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

Responding to God’s Word

***Closing Hymn**

“There Is a Balm in Gilead”

PH #394

Sending Forth in God’s Name

Benediction and Blessing

Benediction Response

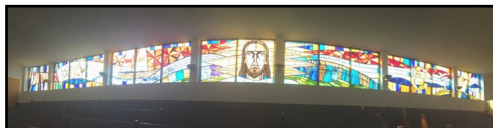
“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

Henry Van Dyke, Ludwig Van Beethoven

Postlude

“Christ Is Alive”

Thomas Williams



Calendar

- Mon., April 13 - **5:30pm** Worship & Music
6:30pm Scouts
- Tue., April 14 - **11:00am** Strength & Balance Class
2:00pm Yoga for Life
5:30pm AA (room #201)
- Wed., April 15 - **5:45pm** PAC/Teens
6:30pm Bells
7:30pm Choir
- Thu., April 16 - **11:00am** Strength & Balance Class
6:30pm Deacons
- Fri., April 17 - *No Activities Scheduled*
- Sat., April 18 - *No Activities Scheduled*
- Sun., April 19 - **10:00am** - 3rd Sunday of Easter
- Mon., April 20 - **NO** Resource Manag. (moved to 4/22)
1:30pm Prayer Shawl Ministry
4:30pm Admin & Personnel
6:30pm Scouts

LAY READERS NEEDED:



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

Worship Participants:

Suzy Pfliiger, Lay Pastor
Debi Rogers, Chancel Choir dir.
Arvy Smith, Keyboards
Mark Jensen, Youth Ministry dir.
Donna Richter, Lay Reader
Josh Stokka, Audio/Visual Specialist
Rose & Tom Trenbeath, Alice & Dave Nix, Becky Liedtke,
and Neva Carlisle ~ Ushers



BLOOD PRESSURE CLINIC

SUNDAY, APRIL 26TH

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

Last clinic until fall - feel free to contact church office this summer if you need to set up an appt. with Carmen.

**You can view our church's worship services
on public access television, Sundays at noon!
Midco channel #12 or #612 (Community Access TV)**

THANK YOU FOR ALL THE PORT PILLOWS

Keep them coming!! The Sanford Cancer Center is in need of chemo port pillows for their patients. If you are interested in helping, there is a simple sewing pattern available in the church office. For more information, please reach out to Cathy Kinnischtzke. 527-3393.



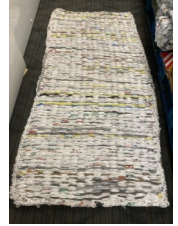
Monday, May 4

Suzuki Spring Recital

6:00pm in FPC Sanctuary!

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
As of today she has made over 100 mats!



Brag Box:

Parents and Grandparents: send us an email bragging about your child/grandkids accomplishments no matter how big or small!

(I would love pictures too)

We want to celebrate all the milestones by recognizing them in the monthly newsletter! **Deadline for May edition is 4/27/26**

firstpresbyterian@fpcbismarck.com

Munch & Mingle!

Broadway Grill (100 W Broadway Ave.)

12:00pm - Broadway Grill & Tavern

Wednesday, May 6, 2026!



HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE: During April, the Hospitality Committee is asking for ingredients to fill snack bags. Heaven's Helpers' Soup Café volunteers will use the donated items to put together snack bags for their guests.

Peanuts (Without the shell)

M&M's

Dried Cranberries

Reece's Pieces

Crackers

Chex Mix

Sunflower Seeds

Cereal (Larger, non-crumblly cereal such as Cheerios or Kix)

Snack Size Baggies

Items can be dropped off at the donation box in the Narthex.

Thanks for your generosity.

Heaven's Helpers



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

The Per Capita Special Offering is a special offering of our church that extends the entire year. We start to talk about it in January of each year and provide added information throughout the year in the form of periodic minutes for mission, special articles in the newsletter and church bulletins. Per Capita is the amount that the church must pay to the larger church for each member of the church. This year that amount is \$50 per member. We request that each member consider giving a gift to the church of \$50 to cover their share of the church's financial obligation to the larger church. If you are a member that pledges income each year to the church, and would like to be able to help support other members who might find it financially unfeasible to pledge or to make the separate per capita donation, your separate gift of \$50 will help cover the cost of membership for that less fortunate member of the church. Thank you.

“Undie Sunday”

Boxers, briefs, hipster, granny pants, hi-cut, action figures, cotton or nylon—you decide...

The Hospitality Committee will be collecting appropriate NEW underwear of all sizes and shapes (kids and adults) on **Sunday, May 17th**.



During the service there will be an opportunity to toss the underwear into baskets (with help from our youth). Please consider helping with this project. All items will be distributed to the Heart River Correctional Facility and the Abused Adult Resource Center.

The First Presbyterian Church Scholarship Committee

is pleased to announce the availability of a limited number of scholarships for our church community. To be eligible for consideration to receive a scholarship, a student must be an active member of First Presbyterian Church of Bismarck or must have been an active participant in the life of the church for at least three years. Students at any level of study beyond high school are eligible to receive a scholarship award.

Students are eligible to receive a scholarship for a maximum of four years: the years do not need to be consecutive. Graduate students may apply for scholarships, providing they are within the four-year maximum. Applications are available in the

Narthex, in the church office, and for download from the front page of the church website at

www.fcpbismarck.com The deadline to apply is 4:30pm on Friday, **May 15, 2026**.



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

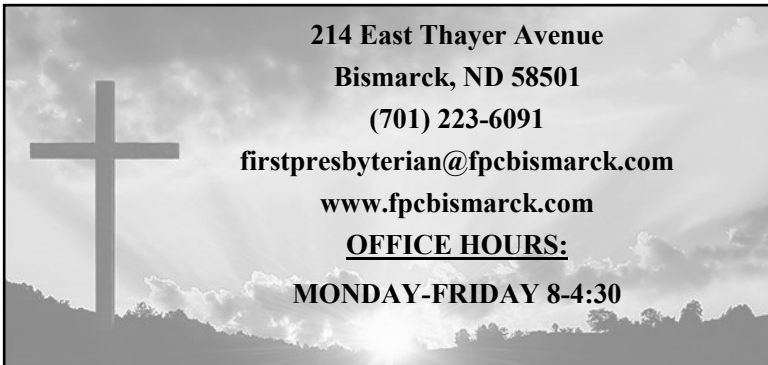
Judy Lentz, Membership Services Coordinator

Mary Jones, and Laci Rauser, Nursery

Mark Jensen, Youth Ministry Director

Erik Hein Jr., Sunday Security

Connor Svihovec, C.E. Intern



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!

