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PASTOR LEANNE'S MESSAGE:

Journey to the Cross

The scripture makes no bones about it: when Jesus turned his face toward Jerusalem in the last months of his life, he knew exactly what he was doing – he knew he was going to die. He wouldn't have needed divine foresight to figure that out - the nature of his dealings with the powers of that day, his exposure of the world's sin, graft and deception – all these things set him up to be an enemy of both state and religious institutions. By riding into the city on a donkey, clearly fulfilling scripture about the coming of the Messiah, he could not have sent a clearer message to those who hated him: “Here I am. Come and get me.” And so, they did.

That fact heightens the significance of every event that happened with his disciples as he journeyed there. These events will be the topics of our Lenten Services, because they reveal the “finishing touches” Jesus put on his ministry on earth and set the course for the post resurrections of the church. They reveal his on-going plan for our lives together.

Thus, join me for Lenten worship, and let us listen carefully to those all-important words of Christ, and take them to heart as we journey with Jesus to the cross, so that we may understand our own journeys to the Resurrection.

Leanne

“The Journey to Jerusalem” by: Macrina Wiederkehr, O.S.B.

From the cross
 the arms of Jesus stretch out
 like wings
 wide, all-embracing.
 So inclusive are these arms of God
 even as I am drawn in
 I, who chose not to go to Jerusalem.

I hear these words again,
 echoing in my soul
 “Behold we are going up to Jerusalem!”



CHILDCARE CENTER NEWS-

What is National CACFP Week?

CACFP (Child and Adult Care Food Program) Week is a national education and information campaign sponsored annually, the third week of March, by the National CACFP Sponsors Association. The campaign is designed to raise awareness of how the USDA's Child and Adult Care Food Program works to combat hunger. The CACFP brings healthy foods to tables across the country for children in child care centers, homes, and afterschool programs as well as adults in day care.

This year, the First Presbyterian Child Care Center will be celebrating CACFP week with a farm theme! The children will enjoy at least one meal each day during the week that fits our theme. The preschool and toddler aged groups will also enjoy several farm activities during the week of the CACFP celebration.

We plan to close out the week with an invitation to parents to join their children for a Friday afternoon snack. It's always fun having parents as part of the lively conversations that we enjoy on a daily basis, with their amazing children. All in all, it should turn out to be a fun week as we include a farm theme in our delicious, healthy meals and snacks. We hope to have some pictures for next months newsletter!

Shawn, CCC Director

CCC Needs List for March: Kleenex



The Child Care Center has part-time and full-time positions available along with great employment flexibility for high school and college students. For more information, contact **Shawn or Vanessa at 258-7490**, or learn more about the center using this **QR code!**



THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY BOOKS ARE HERE!

We guarantee you will enjoy sharing books with family and friends!

We also guarantee many smiles, memories, and even some tears!

Lots of time and research went into this project, please enjoy our efforts. Pick up your copy in the FPC office today!

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

FPC Church Staff & 150th Anniversary Committee

PARISH NURSE NEWS -

Thank you for all the positive feedback from the medication disposal bags. I have some bags left in the office so feel free to reach out if you need one. The next **Blood Pressure Clinic is March 2nd** before and after church service from 9am-10am and 11am-12pm. (Yes, this is strategically planned to coincide with the delicious caramel rolls that will be for sale that morning!)

March 9th – 15th is Sleep Awareness Week. Sleep is important for healthy brain function, maintaining your immune system and your overall physical health. The National Sleep Foundation has provided 6 steps for a healthy sleep:

1. Mealtimes – eat your meals at consistent times
2. Exercise regularly – try for 30 minutes 5 days a week
3. Spend time in bright light during the day
4. Avoid heavy meals, nicotine, caffeine and alcohol prior to bedtime
5. Wind down with a relaxing consistent routine every night
6. Sleep in a cool, quiet, dark environment with phones and devices put away at least an hour before bedtime. Sweet Dreams!

Proverbs 3:24

"When you lie down, you will not be afraid, when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet"

Sincerely, Carmen

Blood Pressure Clinic - Sunday, March 2, 2025!
9am-10am and 11am-12pm



FPC Prayer Shawl Ministry

Our Prayer Shawl (knitting/crocheting) Ministry Group of ladies has been meeting monthly in the Church Parlor at 1:30pm the 1st and 3rd Mondays of the month since January 2019. We have enjoyed some of you stopping by to check it out or have a visit. We would like to remind and welcome anyone (male or female) who enjoys knitting or crocheting to join our fun group! Some of you may have other talents such as cross stitching, hardanger, quilting, making port pillows, or fleece blankets. If you are interested in just visiting we would love to have you as well... it is very relaxing and you can stay as long as you like. To the wonderful people who have donated yarn, needles, or dollars to use for our Ministry, we say "Thank You!" We also encourage anyone who knows of someone (whether they are a member of our church or not) that you feel would benefit from receiving a prayer shawl, lap robe or an afghan, let us know. We have been blessed to give out baby afghans when we have baptisms in our church. Also, if you can't come to join our group in person but you enjoy doing your handiwork at home & you feel the desire to donate your hand-made item, please feel to contact either the church office, Jan Gilchrist: 527-0565 - Cathy Kinnischtzke 527-3393 or Neva Carlisle 426-6690.

Sincerely, The FPC Prayer Shawl Ministry Group

Brag Box:

Dr. Cole Svihovec

- sons of Karmen & Darin Svihovec -



Southridge Chiropractic Clinic

Have you met Dr. Cole Svihovec yet?

Dr. Cole Svihovec was raised in Bismarck, ND and graduated from Bismarck Legacy High School in 2017. He attended the University of Mary for his undergraduate studies where he earned a Bachelor's of Science degree in biology in 2021. He earned his doctorate in chiropractic from Northwestern Health Sciences University in Bloomington, MN in 2023. Dr. Svihovec is level one trained in Graston Technique. Graston Technique is a form of deep soft tissue technique that utilizes scraping to promote blood flow to tissues that need additional healing as well as to break up scar tissue and fascial adhesions. Dr. Svihovec is also a member of the North Dakota Chiropractic Association.



Corby Svihovec



Connor Svihovec

Dean's List Fall 2024

Congratulations to the 4,322 North Dakota State University students who earned places on the fall 2024 dean's list.

A student must earn a 3.50 grade point average or higher and be enrolled in at least 12 class credits to qualify.

North Dakota

Name	Home City	Program
Svihovec, Corby	Bismarck	Mechanical Engineering



legacy_sabers_boys_basketball



legacy_sabers_boys_basketball Sophomore Connor Svihovec drained 9 3 pointers against Bismarck High in an incredible performance from beyond the arc.

#bettertogether #fangsdown



Canaan - son of Elise Hocking ~ Brighe - daughter of Erin Hocking

Proud grandparents ~ Juanita & Kim Hocking

WESTMINSTER CHIMES CARAMEL ROLL SALE-

Caramel Rolls are Back!



Sunday, March 2nd is the date to save for the Westminster Chimes caramel rolls sale. It will be held in the Parlor and all proceeds go to the Dedicated Handbell Fund. Anyone who would like to place orders for *six or more* may put their request on a sign-up sheet in the narthex and we will have them ready for pickup after the March 2nd Sunday service. Many thanks for your support!

Please
join us!



***Ash Wednesday* March 5, 2025**

5:30pm - Youth Soup Supper

(FREE-WILL OFFERING for our Youth Summer Trip)

7:30pm - Ash Wednesday Service

Hospitality Committee Donation Opportunity:

'Tis the season of sniffles and bubbly noses, so during March, the Hospitality Committee is supporting the Child Care Center with boxes of facial tissues! Any that land in the Childcare pack and play in the narthex will be greatly appreciated! This is an opportunity for the congregation to help defray Child Care Center costs by donating tissues, the most-used disposable item consumed by the Center.



Please bring your donations to the Donations Box or the Donations Crib in the Narthex during March. Your gifts are much appreciated by the Child Care Center and by the little noses that benefit from the tissues!

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!



CHRISTIAN ED:

PAC and Teens has been going well! The bible stories the kids have been learning about are good Samaritan, David and Goliath, burning bush, and more! The teens are currently working their way through Psalms and learning about having peace. Some of their activities have been collecting for Souper Bowl Sunday donations, sledding, and an escape room! Thanks for checking in...

-Youth Ministry Director, Mark Jensen

Super Bowl Sunday was a cold, cold day in Bismarck, but First Presbyterian hearts were warm. The annual Souper Bowl collection netted \$818 for the Heavens' Helpers Soup Café! Thanks to all who contributed money to the soup pots, as well as to those who contributed canned soups.



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS
FEBRUARY 25, 2025

CLERK'S REPORT

Membership remains 308.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor Leanne noted that plans are being made for Lenten activities. Good Friday service will be held at Glencoe with our choir participating.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Total Income YTD Actual	\$56,969	Budget \$31,917
Total Expense YTD Actual	\$53,604	Budget \$62,664
NET Income	\$3,366	Budget -\$30,747

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative and Personnel - Eric Hein Sr. was hired to work Friday and Saturday to do maintenance/repairs.

Hospitality - Some work plans were finalized. The committee would welcome more members.

Proclamation—Christian Ed - A total of \$818 was collected on Souper Bowl Sunday which will be given to Heaven's Helpers Soup Kitchen. The children will process with palms but not sing. Youth will be serving soup on Ash Wednesday 6:00-7:00, before service at 7:30.

Proclamation—Worship and Music - Presbyterian Youth will participate in worship service on May 4.

Property and Equipment - A few things were missing from the original HVAC plan (valve in CCC room) which are being corrected. Bearings on the pumps will need to be replaced.

Resource Management - Coffee carafes will be replaced at a cost of \$283. Per capita assessment is \$50 per member and the congregation is encouraged to pay that amount. \$22,470 was received in pre-paid pledges.


Board of Deacons - Karmen Svihovec and Allen Hoberg will be representatives on the Nominating Committee. Attendance and programs at the Presby Friends gatherings at Augusta Place have been outstanding.

Child Care Center Board - May 18 will be CCC staff appreciation Sunday.

Alice Nix, Clerk of Session



hello March 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 10am Worship Communion Blood Pressure Clinic 9-10am & 11am-12pm Bell Choir—Caramel Roll Sale!	3 1:30pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30pm Scouts NO Christian Ed	4 11AM Bal. & Strength Class 5:45pm Prop.& Equipment 7:00pm Lay Pastors	5 Noon - Munch & Mingle! Ash Wednesday Soup Supper 5:30pm Service 7:30pm NO PAC/Teens NO Bells or Choir	6 11AM Bal. & Strength Class 2:00pm Yoga	7	8
9 10am Worship 1st Sunday in Lent Time Change 	10 5:30pm Worship & Music 6:30pm Scouts	11 11AM Bal. & Strength Class 5:30pm CCC Board	12 5:45pm PAC/Teens 6:30pm Bells 7:30pm Choir	13 11AM Bal. & Strength Class 2:00pm Yoga 6:00pm Hospitality	14	15
16 10am Worship 2nd Sunday in Lent	17 Noon -Resource Management 1:30pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 4:30pm Admin. & Personnel 6:30pm Scouts	18 11AM Bal. & Strength Class	19 5:45pm PAC/Teens 6:30pm Bells 7:30pm Choir	20 11AM Bal. & Strength Class 2:00pm Yoga 7:00pm Deacons	21	22
23 10am Worship 3rd Sunday in Lent 30 4th Sunday in Lent	24 6:30pm Scouts 31 6:30pm Scouts	25 11AM Bal. & Strength Class 2:00pm Presby Friends 6:00pm Session	26 5:45pm PAC/Teens 6:30pm Bells 7:30pm Choir	27 11AM Bal. & Strength Class 2:00pm Yoga	28	29

March

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

MARCH 2025 - BIRTHDAYS

March 2	Eleanor Sand
March 2	Edith Weber
March 3	Olivia Bachmeier
March 3	Drew Henriksen
March 3	Becky Murphy
March 3	Ethan Lannoye
March 4	Dawn Henriksen
March 5	Johan Mahlum
March 6	Duane Ehrens
March 8	Zach Strombeck
March 10	Mary Hoberg
March 11	Darlene Kelley
March 11	John Bjornson
March 12	Larry Larson
March 12	Otto Reile
March 12	Kathleen Gappert
March 13	Mary Ingstad
March 15	Juanita Hocking
March 15	Jim Rambo
March 16	Don Bigwood
March 16	Judy Lentz
March 17	Connor Svihovec
March 17	Carol Zimmerman
March 19	Alice Halling
March 19	Larry Hoge
March 21	Susan Schafer
March 26	David Poffenberger
March 27	Heather Davis
March 30	Sandy Westerlind
March 30	Alex Volk
March 31	Karmen Svihovec

MARCH 2025 - ANNIVERSARIES

March 10	Keith & Mary Magnusson
March 20	Steve & Laura Adair
March 22	Dale & Lael Hoerauf



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
SUNDAYS - 1:30 PM
VIA - ZOOM



Wednesday, March 5th
Munch & Mingle
12pm - Broadway Grill & Tavern
(100 W Broadway Ave.)

**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

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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

Carmen Bryhn

Maintenance

Erik Hein Sr

Christian Ed. Youth Director

Mark Jensen

Organists

Arvy Smith & Gail Snustad

Chancel Choir Director

Debi Rogers

Westminster Chimes Director

Lael Hoerauf

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 & Laci Rauser

Sunday Security

Erik Hein Jr

Christian Ed. Intern

Ruth Jensen

Fun Holidays in March

- 1st - National Pig Day
- 2nd - Dr. Seuss's Birthday
- 3rd - National Anthem Day
- 4th - National Grammar Day
- 5th - National Day of Unplugging
- 6th - National Oreo Cookie Day
- 7th - National Cereal Day
- 9th - National Barbie Day
- 10th - Mario Day
- 14th - National Pi Day
- 15th - National Napping Day
- 16th - National Panda Day
- 17th - St. Patrick's Day
- 19th - National Let's Laugh Day
- 20th - National Corn Dog Day
- 21st - World Poetry Day
- 22nd - National Groof Off Day
- 23rd - National Puppy Day
- 24th - National Cheesesteak Day
- 25th - International Waffle Day
- 26th - Wear a Hat Day
- 31st - National Crayon Day

Spring Equinox happens on
March 19, 20, or 21st each year.





Easter Week Schedule



Sunday, April 13 - Palm Sunday Service at 10:00am

Thursday, April 17 - Maundy Thursday Service at 7:30pm

**Friday, April 18 - Good Friday Service at Glencoe Sloan at 5:00pm
followed by soup & sandwiches**

Saturday, April 19 - Prayer Vigil in Chapel 11am - 12pm

Sunday, April 20 - Easter Sunday Service at 10:00am

Easter Memorials

Each Easter we offer the opportunity to give donations in memory of loved ones. Monies from these memorials are directed to the Deacon's *Gift of Giving* program which supports the work of the Deacons and provides assistance to people in need. If you would like to make such a donation, please provide the following information **by Monday, April 14th** to the church office: 223-6091 or email at firstpresbyterian@fpcbismarck.com

In Memory of

Given by

Amt _____

Donations can be made in cash or a check payable to 'First Presbyterian Church' with *Gift of Giving* indicated in the memo line. All memorials will be listed in the bulletin on Easter Sunday, April 20th (without amounts).



**We are planning a Father's Day slide show
to honor our fathers!**

**Please email your picture along with names
a brief message to: firstpresbyterian@fpcbismarck.com
or bring into the office to be scanned
by Monday, June 9th**

