

JUNE 2025

June 2025 - Here and Now Newsletter!

Volume 72, Issue 6

PASTOR LEANNE'S MESSAGE:

Update and Thanks...

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It's good to be moving around again, even if I am slower and hesitant to bend over! Who knew that Leukemia would weaken my spine! A series of compression fractures made the last few months miserable, but I am now receiving treatment for that as well as for my blood counts. I feel pretty good, just stiff. And my blood counts look pretty good!

Laying flat on my back, thinking of the church and my overgrowing garden was not a fun experience – but I have to say this: I received so many expressions of kindness and care, that I was over-whelmed. What a compassionate and generous church this is! I always had food, my house was clean, my lawn was miraculously mowed, and cards and flowers and phone calls and texts arrived, making me feel very loved. (And perhaps a bit unworthy!) I was wanting for nothing.

At church, staff bent over backwards to help me work from my bed... and offered CONSTANT reminders for me to slow down and not do anything stupid. And Audrey has been a gem, only grinning and not complaining when I texted her from my bed and asked her to come into my room and pick up my remote control which was two feet farther from my fingers than I could stretch.

Thank you all, for your help, love and concern. I am happy to be on the mend for this round, and appreciate you all for your care.

Leanne



A Sad Good Bye but, the Best of Luck!

The First Presbyterian Childcare Center Assistant Director of 26 years, Vanessa Hein is beginning a new adventure. She has accepted a position as an office secretary at Eide Chevrolet. Vanessa's enthusiastic personality, her administrative skills and attention to detail while problem solving, multitasking and pivoting to make things run as smoothly as possible for the childcare children, families and staff will be greatly missed!

We thank Vanessa for her years of dedication and devotion to the First Presbyterian Childcare Center. We, the Childcare Board members and staff wish her the best on this new chapter of her life. Good luck Vanessa, Juanita— CCC Board, Chair.



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!

With all the bags we have contributed so far, she has made 30 mats!



Pentecost Offering, June 8, 2025.

The Day of Pentecost is considered the birth of the Church. The Pentecost Offering unites us in a church-wide effort to support young people and inspire them to share their faith, ideas, and unique gifts with the church and the world. Psalm 71 testifies that a foundation of faith established during childhood helps ensure lifelong faith and service. The patterns and lessons learned during these formative years continue to bear fruit throughout a person's life. The Pentecost Offering helps to nurture the faith of those who are the church to come, children, youth, and young adults.

The Resource Management Committee has chosen the FPC Childcare Center to receive 40% of our offering. They strive to provide a creative, nurturing, and stimulating environment in which to learn and grow. The remaining 60% will go to the Presbyterian Mission Agency. They will divide it between young adult volunteers at 13 mission sites and a program established for youth ministries.

Thank you for your consideration,
Resource Management Committee



PARISH NURSE NEWS -

Measles – A quick guide on what to know.....

At the time I am writing this, 11 cases of measles have been reported in North Dakota. Below are some quick facts and guidelines provided by North Dakota Health and Human Services:

- Measles is a **highly contagious** viral disease with a sudden onset. It can cause fever, rash, cough and runny nose.
- Serious complications of measles can result in pneumonia, swelling in the brain, convulsions, deafness and even death.
- It is transmitted from person to person by a cough or sneeze and can stay in the air for **up to two hours** after a person has been in the area.
- There is **no specific treatment** for measles, instead just supportive care for the virus unless secondary bacterial infections develop.

Measles is prevented through vaccination.

The CDC considers individuals **born before 1957** to have a high likelihood of **natural immunity**.

Vulnerable populations include:

unvaccinated individuals (including infants less than 12 months)

immunocompromised individuals - cancer patients, organ transplant recipients, people with HIV/AIDS, those on long-term corticosteroids or immunosuppressive therapy such as lupus, rheumatoid arthritis or inflammatory bowel disease and people with genetic or congenital immunodeficiencies.

If an exposure to Measles occurs:

Those who **NEED** to quarantine include:

People who have NOT had any doses of measles vaccine and

People who are NOT immune to measles through prior infection

Those who **DO NOT** need to quarantine include:

People who have had one or more doses of measles vaccine

People who are immune to measles from prior infection

People who were born before 1957

People who received a measles vaccine within 72 hours of their first exposure

*“For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us,
so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and
the encouragement they provide we might have hope.”*

Romans 15:4

Sincerely, Carmen

CHILDCARE CENTER NEWS-

If you thought you heard “cheeps” coming from the Childcare Center wing earlier this spring, you weren’t imagining the sounds. Donated fertilized eggs from Blue Haven Farms of Belfield, ND were kept in an incubator in the Childcare office area allowing the children to observe the incubation process and hatching!

Eleven fuzzy chicks were successfully hatched. The chicks have relocated to their new home, the Folmer family chicken coop. Thanks to Eileen Folmer, staff member for providing the “eggciting” experience for the Childcare Center children!!!

Our kids are very creative artists, see their master-pieces below!

Some of our kiddos art projects!!



**CCC Needs List for June:
laundry detergent,
garbage bags (33 gal. & 13 gal.)**



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 at 258-7490**, or learn more about the center using this **QR code!**



Spring Chicks!!



Brag Box: Beckett & Grayson Hedland

Jenni Boeckel and Corey Hedland - parents

Jane & Brant Boeckel - grandparents



I'd love to share a little about our two amazing boys!

Beckett is finishing up 4th grade and heading into 5th with so much to be proud of. He continues to play soccer and recently added guitar to his growing list of instruments! His love for music really shines, and we're so proud of how hard he works and how much joy he finds in it. He's also very artistic and loves expressing himself through drawing and creative projects.

Grayson just wrapped up 2nd grade and is heading into 3rd. He's our little athlete, spending his time swimming and playing basketball and baseball. He also enjoys playing the piano and ukulele but lives for the drums. Grayson especially loves to draw and is always coming up with imaginative creations.

Beyond their activities, what makes us proudest is how kind and caring they both are to their family, friends, teammates, and each other. They have a special bond with their great-grandmother, Genevieve Voegele, and love spending time with her, telling her stories and sharing hugs.

We're so lucky to watch them grow! Thanks for celebrating them, *Jenni*



Music Competition

CHRISTIAN ED:

In May, the kids and teens wrapped up this years PAC and Presbyterians by practicing songs, and participating in a youth service. It has been awesome to work with them on this big project and to show off some of their skills. Thank you to Alisha Wohl for helping with the music!

Youth Ministry Director, Mark Jensen



F
P
C



YOUTH





CHRISTIAN ED:

The teens from across North Dakota came to a retreat here at FPC, where they had a service project, cleaned toys in the child care center, devotions, made lots of friends, and sang lots of songs! I hope you all have a fantastic summer!

Youth Ministry Director, Mark Jensen



SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

May 27, 2025

FINANCIAL REPORT

Total Income YTD Actual	\$175,532	Budget \$162,541
Total Expense YTD Actual	\$196,878	Budget \$227,650
NET Income	-\$21,347	Budget -\$65,110
Unrestricted General Fund	\$191,219	

MODERATOR'S REPORT

Pastor Leanne thanked those assisting with Youth Sunday. June events will include participation in Pride, Juneteenth and the picnic with all 3 churches.

Session approved the baptism request of Gus and Alyssa Shockman for their baby, Hayes Dean Shockman. This will occur some Sunday in June.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative and Personnel—They are reviewing the health insurance policy and the outdated phone system.

Hospitality—The summer worship service with all three Presbyterian Churches will be June 22 at Shelter #10 in Sertoma Park.

Proclamation-Christian Education—There will be 3 youth attending Triennium this summer.

Proclamation-Worship and Music—Plant Perfect refunded \$81 from the Easter lily purchase—due to poor conditions of the plants. In the future, silk flowers will be used. Different candles for the altar will be purchased.

Property and Equipment—A few water leaks following the rain were detected, some may have been condensation. An engineering company will do a structural review including the roof. Some of the very worn pew seats will be replaced.

Resource Management—The Child Care Center will receive 40% of the special Pentecost offering. A CD was renewed and the \$3,294 interest was put in the General Fund.

Board of Deacons—Dot Glaser was added to the visitation and recording lists. The Gift of Giving received over \$1,000 in donations at Easter.

Nominating—the committee will begin searching for 6 Elders and 7 Deacons for the Class of 2027.

Child Care Center Board—Assistant Director Vanessa Heim will be leaving to start a different job. She will be missed. A \$14,000 grant was received and used to purchase some appliances, high- chairs, crib, and walkie-talkies.

Alice Nix, Clerk of Session



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES



JUNE 2025 - BIRTHDAYS

June 1	Will Davis
June 2	Jim Skaret
June 5	Ronald Gappert
June 5	Drew Pengilly
June 7	David Pengilly
June 9	Genie Voegelé
June 9	Bryce Volk
June 15	Sedalia Mahlum
June 16	Leroy Bollinger
June 19	Bonnie Riedlinger
June 23	Debi Rogers
June 24	Gary Gilchrist
June 24	Calista Wohl
June 27	Bill Sprynczynatyk
June 27	Jill Bollinger
June 30	Mary Bradford
June 30	Sarah Massey

JUNE 2025 - ANNIVERSARIES

June 1	Otto & Jae Reile
June 1	Lyle & Susan Johnsen
June 4	Joe & Jody Bachmeier
June 5	Allen & Mary Hoberg
June 13	Tedd & Ella Gutzke
June 17	Chris & Dawn Henriksen
June 18	Ed & Becky Murphy
June 21	Leo & Audre Goll
June 24	Ryan & Heather Davis
June 24	David & Danette Pengilly
June 26	Don & Lynne Bigwood
June 27	Josh & Maren Stokka
June 30	Ken & Debi Rogers

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 ~

Munch & Mingle!

Reminder: our June luncheon will be
at Lucky's 13 Pub (915 S 3rd St.)

**Noon - Lucky's 13 Pub
3rd & Expressway**

Wednesday, June 4, 2025!

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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

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

Nursery

Mary Jones & Laci Rauser

Sunday Security

Erik Hein Jr

Christian Ed. Intern

Ruth Jensen

**MUNCH
&
MINGLE**



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 10am Worship communion 7th Sunday of Easter	2 1:30pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 6:30pm Scouts 7:00pm Christian Ed	3 5:45pm Prop.& Equipment 6:30pm Lay Pastors	4 Noon - Munch & Mingle! Lucky's 13 Pub 3rd & Expressway	5 2:00pm Yoga	6	7
8 10am Worship Day of Pentecost	9 5:30pm Worship & Music 6:30pm Scouts	10 5:30pm CCC Board	11	12 2:00pm Yoga 6:00pm Hospitality	13	14 11am-4pm Capitol Pride!
15 10am Worship Trinity Sunday	16 Noon -Resource Management 1:30pm Prayer Shawl Ministry 4:30pm Admin. & Personnel 6:30pm Scouts	17	18	19 2:00pm Yoga NO Deacons	20	21
22 2nd Sunday of Pentecost 10:30 3-church outdoor service at Sertoma Park! (shelter #10)	23 6:30pm Scouts	24 2:00pm Presby Friends 6:00pm Session	25	26 2:00pm Yoga	27	28 4pm - 8pm Juneteenth Celebration! (Kiwanis Park)
29 10am Worship 3rd Sunday of Pentecost	30 6:30pm Scouts					