

THE VOICE

A PUBLICATION OF THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF WILLMAR



First Presbyterian Church is a caring and compassionate community of God's children in the heart of the city, welcoming all people and striving to work together to be Christ's hands and feet, spreading the good news of God's love throughout the world.

PASTORS NOTE

⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing... ⁹As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.
(John 15: 5, 9)

Friends,

First of all, Pastor Leanne and I would like to extend a personal invitation to you. I'll speak more about that invitation in the paragraphs below, but first I want to share some words about what we've all lived through in the past two years. I was just talking to a fellow father of a college-aged daughter about how school was going. He shared how difficult the pandemic was for her. The social isolation and distance learning came at a time in her life when she was meant to step out, have new experiences, and make new friends, and therefore couldn't have come at a worse time. She really struggled with isolation, discouragement, and anxiety brought on by it all. She's doing much better now, but she definitely came through the pandemic a bit beat up and a little worse for wear. As a fellow parent, my heart went out to him as he shared the story of his daughter's experience.

Maybe her experience resonates with you too? The pandemic has taken its toll in various ways on all of us. Not only that, but during the months of isolation many of us were cut off or withdrew from Christian fellowship and regular worship attendance. And that separation maybe became a habit after a few months and you've felt yourself a bit distant from your church family.

If there's one thing that I've learned from this pandemic, it is that our mental, physical, and spiritual health are all interrelated. You've maybe been beaten down emotionally and spiritually and are feeling a bit low or in need of encouragement. If so, now is *not* the time to cut yourself off from the lifegiving vine that is abiding in Jesus. To abide in Christ is to experience fullness of life and the warmth of the love of God.

Maybe you need to reconnect? It is our earnest prayer and the goal of our every effort that your church would be a place where you experience this fullness of life and the love of Christ. That is why Leanne and I are endeavoring to create opportunities to reconnect with you, to hear your stories, learn of how we can support you, to hear your prayer concerns, to support your families, and walk alongside of you.

Therefore we'd like to personally invite you to table fellowship and conversation. We have set aside certain times to make this happen throughout the coming year:

- **Sunday Lunch** at your place or out somewhere
- **Wednesday night dinner** at your place or out somewhere
- **Weekday coffee** anywhere, at a time that works for you

It's sort of an old-fashioned thing, isn't it? Sunday lunch with the pastors? But that doesn't mean it's not a good thing. To schedule a time to reconnect, call, text, or email Leanne or me. Or call or email Shara at the church office. If it's a meal or coffee out, the pastors will pay their own way, so no need to worry about that!

We look forward to spending time with you and learning what we can do to support you on your spiritual walk. In the meantime, I want to encourage you to reconnect with your church family: join us for Sunday morning worship; drop in on a Sunday school class; join one of our bible studies scheduled throughout the week; call a church friend you haven't spoken to in a while. Regardless, know that you are loved, and may you abide in the vine that is Christ.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Scott



1/1 Emily Mattson
1/2 Jerry Bulthuis
1/3 Harn Rettmer
1/4 Hannah Gabbert
1/5 Elliot Christensen
1/10 Vanessa Ward
1/12 Kirsten Stegeman
1/12 Seth Tebben
1/14 Renae Willms
1/17 Brenda Arnold
1/17 Tayte Tjernagel
1/18 Brian Schueler
1/18 Christopher Baker
1/18 Isabelle Kienholz

1/22 Anna Bakker-Anderson
1/22 Abygail Kienholz
1/23 Russel Fehl
1/23 Taunia Tiegs-Marquardt
1/24 Emily Walz
1/24 Andrea Walz
1/24 Oliver Forkrud
1/25 Ben Lang
1/25 Kyle Reich
1/26 Jessie Cortez
1/28 Renella Busk
1/28 Kaitlynn Kienholz
1/28 Ralyk Grunwald
1/29 Becca Bell

Church Prayer Requests

Prayers for Healing & Comfort:

- Renee Allen
- Jason Carver (John and Vicki Carver's Grandson)
- Jessie Quimby
- Jerry Schiro
- Elaine Hovda (Bob Dincau's Sister)
- Chris Schneider
- Lori Peterson (Beci Eliason's Mother)
- Georgia (Marguerite Austin's Sister)
- Dallas Allen (Renee Allen's Mother)
- Jill Berglund (Mary Berglund's Daughter)
- Ried Arnold
- Mark Chamberlain
- Lyle Avant (Christie Avant's Husband)
- Vicki Carver
- Rita Phillips
- Diane Tempel

Prayers For Those Who Grieve:

- The Family of Norm Tempel
- The Family of Dale Bolin (Brother-in-law of Marquerite and Dale Austin)
- The Family of Richard Schuetz (Brother-in-law of Scott and Jill Boeyink)
- The Family of Corinne Ferguson

Prayers for those Serving Elsewhere:

- Perry Bishop (Bruce and Pam Quimby's Grandson-in-law) Army, Syria
- Noah Prout, (Barb Little's Nephew) Air Force, Florida
- Chandler D'Incau (Bob and Rita's Grandson) GoodFellow AFB, San Angelo, TX
- Rob Grunwald, Coast Guard, Two Rivers, Wisconsin on Lake Michigan
- Peter Rampart, Arden Hills, MN

Prayers for the Church Here and Abroad:

- The People of Occidente Presbytery, Guatemala;
- Mark and Miriam Adams, Frontero de Cristo, Douglas, AZ.
- Bdecan Presbyterian Church, Spirit Lake Reservation, ND.

MISSION OF THE MONTH

The Kandiyohi County Food Shelf

The Kandiyohi County Food Shelf has been serving families in Kandiyohi County since 1982. Currently they are helping an average of 450 families a month. A family typically goes home with 50-100 pounds of food which includes dairy, canned fruits/vegetables, grains, canned protein, snacks and beverages, cooking and baking, packaged dinners, frozen meat and sweets and breads.



They currently are offering 3 types of service: curbside, in person, and delivery. Most people are choosing curbside as it's fast and they get a variety of items.

The Food Shelf serves all of Kandiyohi County with the 3 towns we are seeing the most people come to us are from Willmar, New London, and Raymond.

The Food Shelf relies solely on donations from churches, businesses, individuals and grants to continue to do what they do. A \$20 donation can help them purchase \$200 worth of food thru their food bank Second Harvest Heartland in Brooklyn Park. The Food Shelf receives 2 semi loads of food monthly.

Most household's live paycheck to paycheck and just one event such as getting laid off, a health issue or a death in the family and they are seeking help from the food shelf.

The Food shelf is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday's 8am-3:45pm and Friday's 8am-2pm.

TREASURER/BUDGET AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Though this will reach you as the first Voice in 2022, we are reporting on the end of year for the financial position of our church. Perhaps you noticed that no one from the Budget and Stewardship Committee gave a minute for mission, requesting an end of year extra giving to help reduce or better yet, eliminate the deficit! The Committee looked at the results of previous years, where we have had small surpluses, and consequently have accumulated a small balance in the General Fund that should be able to cover whatever the deficit (expenses greater than income) for 2021, so this year the Committee recommended that we NOT urge additional giving. We know, as you do, that this has been a difficult year for many people. We appreciate all that you do, giving as you can, and felt the church could handle the deficit for 2021. (You can expect we will be back next year.) We also expect there will be some extra income from investments and perhaps some extra gifts as well. We are a people of faith, and thank you for all you do, not only for the budgeted needs but for the many mission needs.

The Annual Report for 2021 will have financial data. Please read it and contact the committee or Deb or Bea with any questions. And, we hope to see you at the annual meeting, as well.

We are continuing to receive donations toward the retirement of the internal loan incurred for replacement of the roof. This internal loan is being paid by a combination of the occupancy income we receive and your gifts designated for the roof. (Note, this is separate from the Building and Remodeling Fund that also welcomes your gifts). The Building and Remodeling Fund is for new projects and the items like roof and upcoming overlay of the parking lot are maintenance of existing facilities.

The Per Capita for 2022 is \$43 per confirmed member. Our total obligation of \$10,234 toward the operation of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly will be paid as we receive your per capita gifts for January, February and March. The remaining balance will be paid in April. We encourage confirmed members to pay per capita as they are able. Per capita for each governing body—General Assembly, Synod and Presbytery, funds the operation of each. Included for General Assembly is the cost of staff and overhead. The General Assembly is responsible of the worldwide mission of the Presbyterian Church USA, the Christian Education materials and publications, the guidance of the disaster relief among other things. We will try to highlight how per capita is used, each month in this report. However if you have questions the pastors, Deb and Bea will be happy to try to answer them, or will find

the answer. When you look at what is covered, we are getting an amazing return for what it costs per member.

Extra giving to date is \$3,473 through November 30, 2021. We know in reality many give "extra" without identifying it as such, and make gifts over pledged amounts. All goes into the income of the General Fund, and "counts" toward reducing the shortfall at end of the year.

We hope we will be seeing you back at worship and other activities, soon. ABOVE ALL, STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY.

PER CAPITA

2021 Per Capita is \$43, please pay as you are able. We will pay per capita to the Presbytery as it is given, through March with the balance paid in May. We appreciate your payment whenever you are able, but the sooner the better for the church cash flow.

2021 Per Capita Expense

\$10,148

2021 Per Capita Received

\$7,007.00

General Fund through November 30, 2021

General Fund Revenue:

\$ 218,434.00

Per Capita Giving:

\$ 7,007.00

Total General Fund Receipts:

\$ 225,441.00

Expenses:

\$222,545.00

Per Capita Payment:

\$10,148.00

Total General Fund Expenses:

\$232,693.00

Expenses in excess of Receipts:

\$7,252.00

Building and Remodeling Fund Balance:

\$64,054.00

MISSION GIVING

(Frontera de Cristo)

\$360.00

Youth and Children Announcements

On Wednesday, January 5 at 7:00 p.m. in John Knox Hall there will be an IMPORTANT meeting for all current 8th through 12th graders, along with their parents who are planning on, or interested in going to the Presbyterian Youth Triennium event in July. Packets were mailed to each eligible student and should be brought with you to the meeting.

We will go over all of the details leading up to, and the week of Triennium so this meeting will answer most questions about this event set to take place in Indianapolis, Indiana. If your child is interested in going but you are unable to make it to the meeting, please contact Jill Boeyink.



PRESBYTERIAN YOUTH TRIENNIUM 2022

July 24-27 • Indianapolis, IN



Youth at Lulu Beans

Once again, the Jr. and Sr. High youth are invited to gather at LuLu Beans every 2nd Saturday of each month at 10:00 a.m. The **next gathering will be on January 8th**. Plans are to meet in the large room upstairs, social distanced and wearing masks (only when you're not sipping on your favorite cup of whatever). Be sure to connect with Jeff before placing your order to receive your LuLu Bucks. Contact Jeff Sieck or Rita Phillips if you have questions.

We're turning the page on 2021, now looking ahead to 2022... and we need YOU! Jill Boeyink is in the process of putting together a schedule for Sunday school teachers from January through May, and she'd love to add your name to the list. Even if you sign up for one Sunday, she would be thrilled! Our children love having new teachers come in to tell a Bible story through activities, games, crafts and so on. Everything is provided for you, and Jill will have your list of supplies on hand and ready to go, so there's really no reason not to say yes. We're confident that you will get just as much out of teaching as the kids do out of learning. So, get a hold of Jill right away to sign up!



Parents are busy running their kids to and from so many activities these days, with Wednesday church activities included on that list. To ease the burden on families we have been providing meals to the Gospel Rock and youth participants, along with their volunteer leaders each Wednesday evening at 5:30 in John Knox Hall. We would love some help with this service by inviting all of you to prepare, serve and clean up for one or two of those meals. Jill Boeyink is willing to purchase all ingredients necessary for your meal, and have it at the church in plenty of time for you to prepare. If you think this is a ministry you would like to be a part of,

please let Jill know and she'll work out the details with you.

"Miracle in the Manger" Christmas Program

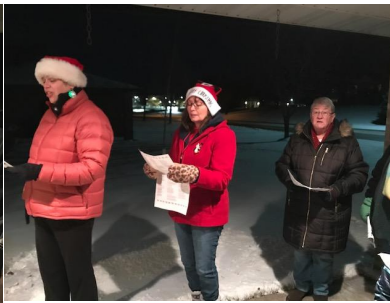
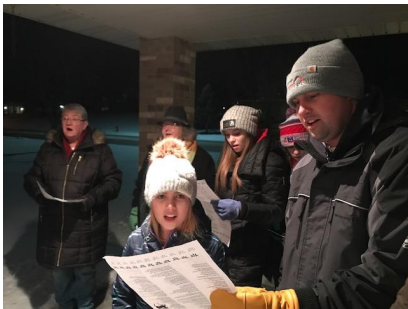
December 19, 2021





Christmas Caroling

December 22, 2021



WINTER WEATHER

During the season of Winter Weather, it is possible that church related activities may be cancelled. As a reminder, evening youth activities will be cancelled if school in Willmar is dismissed early or cancelled. If school is cancelled, the church office will be closed. Cancellation of committee meetings and music rehearsals will be the decision of committee chairs and directors.



Listen to Q102/KWLM, KDJS AM 1590 or visit www.Q102.com/operationsnowdesk for any weather related announcements.

Church Annoucements



To you, our church family. Thank you all so much for the love and prayers, cards, and the beautiful plant sent to us after the sudden passing of our brother-in-law/uncle. We appreciate your support so much!

Jill & Scott Boeyink and family

Exercise class has begun and is **every Tuesday and Thursday** at 10:30am. It is low impact 30-40 minute sessions. Everyone is welcome. Remember to bring a water and a smile.



CALLING ALL WITH CROCHETING AND KNITTING TALENTS!!

We are looking for individuals that are skilled in crocheting and knitting. If that is you, we would love you to help us make our church pocket prayer shawls. All the details are in the PDF button!

Thank you in advance!!



[Pocket Prayer Shawls Instructional PDF](#)

DO YOU NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH? The Deacons are looking into offering rides to Sunday Service for members that are not able to drive to church. If that is you, please email Shara at the church office at fpcwillmar@gmail.com or call her at 320-235-1263.



REMINDER:
We have an ONLINE giving option.

Go to our church website homepage at
www.fpchurchwillmar.org
and click on "GIVE NOW" or
click the "GIVE NOW" button to the right

GIVE NOW

You can still give in the traditional ways. This does not replace offerings by cash or check dropped in the offering plate or sent to the church.
If that is how you prefer to give, please continue to do so. This is simply another option.



***Worship Services are held in the Sanctuary and streamed on Facebook LIVE**

2 Sunday

9:00am: Adult Ed in the Friendship Room

10:00am: Worship

11:00am: Fellowship in JKH

3 Monday

4:30pm-6:30pm: Search Group in the Choir Room

4 Tuesday

7:00am: Men's Bible Study in the Friendship Room

10:30am: Exercise Class in JKH

6:00pm: Personnel in the Admin Office

6:30pm: Deacons in the Choir Room

5 Wednesday

9:30am: Staff Meeting in the Admin Office

5:30pm: Gospel Rock and Youth Group

7:00pm: Triennium meeting in JKH

6 Thursday

10:30am: Exercise Class in JKH

4:00pm: Book Study via Zoom

6:00pm: Music Team in the Sanctuary

8 Saturday

10:00am: Youth at LuLu Beans

9 Sunday

8:30am: Nurture and Fellowship in the Choir Room

9:00am: Sunday School in the Family Cafe` and Adult Ed in the Friendship Room

10:00am: Worship

11:00am: Fellowship in JKH

10 Monday

4:30pm-6:30pm: Search Group in the Choir Room

11 Tuesday

7:00am: Men's Bible Study in the Friendship Room

10:30am: Exercise Class in the Sanctuary

6:30pm: CEYM in the Admin Office and Mission via Zoom

12 Wednesday

8:00am: Women's Bible Study in the Friendship Room

9:30am: Staff Meeting in the Admin Office

5:30pm: Gospel Rock and Youth Group

6:30pm: Buildings and Grounds in the Admin Office

13 Thursday

10:30am: Exercise Class

6:00pm: Music Team in the Sanctuary

15 Saturday

VOICE DEADLINE

10:00am-2:00pm: Presbytery Commission on Leadership Meeting in JKH

16 Sunday

9:00am: Sunday School in the Family Cafe` and Adult Ed in the Friendship Room

10:00am: Worship

11:00am: Fellowship in JKH

17 Monday

Office Closed

4:30pm-6:30pm: Search Group in the Choir Room

18 Tuesday

7:00am: Men's Bible Study in the Friendship Room

10:30am: Exercise Class in JKH

4:30pm-7:00pm: Presbytery Officer Training in the Friendship Room

6:00pm: Budget and Stewardship in the Choir Room

19 Wednesday

8:00am: Women's Bible Study in the Friendship Room

9:30am: Staff Meeting in the Admin Office

5:30pm: Gospel Rock/Youth Group

20 Thursday

Committee Minutes Deadline

10:30am: Exercise Class in JKH

6:00pm: Music Team in the Sanctuary

23 Sunday

Annual Meeting

9:00am: Sunday School in the Family Cafe` and Adult Ed in the Friendship Room

10:00am: Worship

11:00am: Fellowship in JKH

24 Monday

4:30pm-6:30pm: Search Group in the Choir Room

25 Tuesday

7:00am: Men's Bible Study in the Friendship Room

10:30am: Exercise Class in JKH

26 Wednesday

8:00am: Women's Bible Study in the Friendship Room

9:30am: Staff Meeting in the Admin Office

4:00pm: Worship Committee in the Admin Office

5:30pm: Gospel Rock/Youth Group

27 Thursday

10:30am: Exercise Class in JKH

6:00pm: Music Team in the Sanctuary

6:30pm: Session

30 Sunday

9:00am: Sunday School in the Family Cafe` and Adult Ed in the Friendship Room

10:00am: Worship

11:00am: Fellowship in JKH

31 Monday

4:30pm-6:30pm: Search Group in the Choir Room

Reminder: The office is closed every Friday

CHURCH CONTACTS

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